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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

PEACE WITH AMERICA.

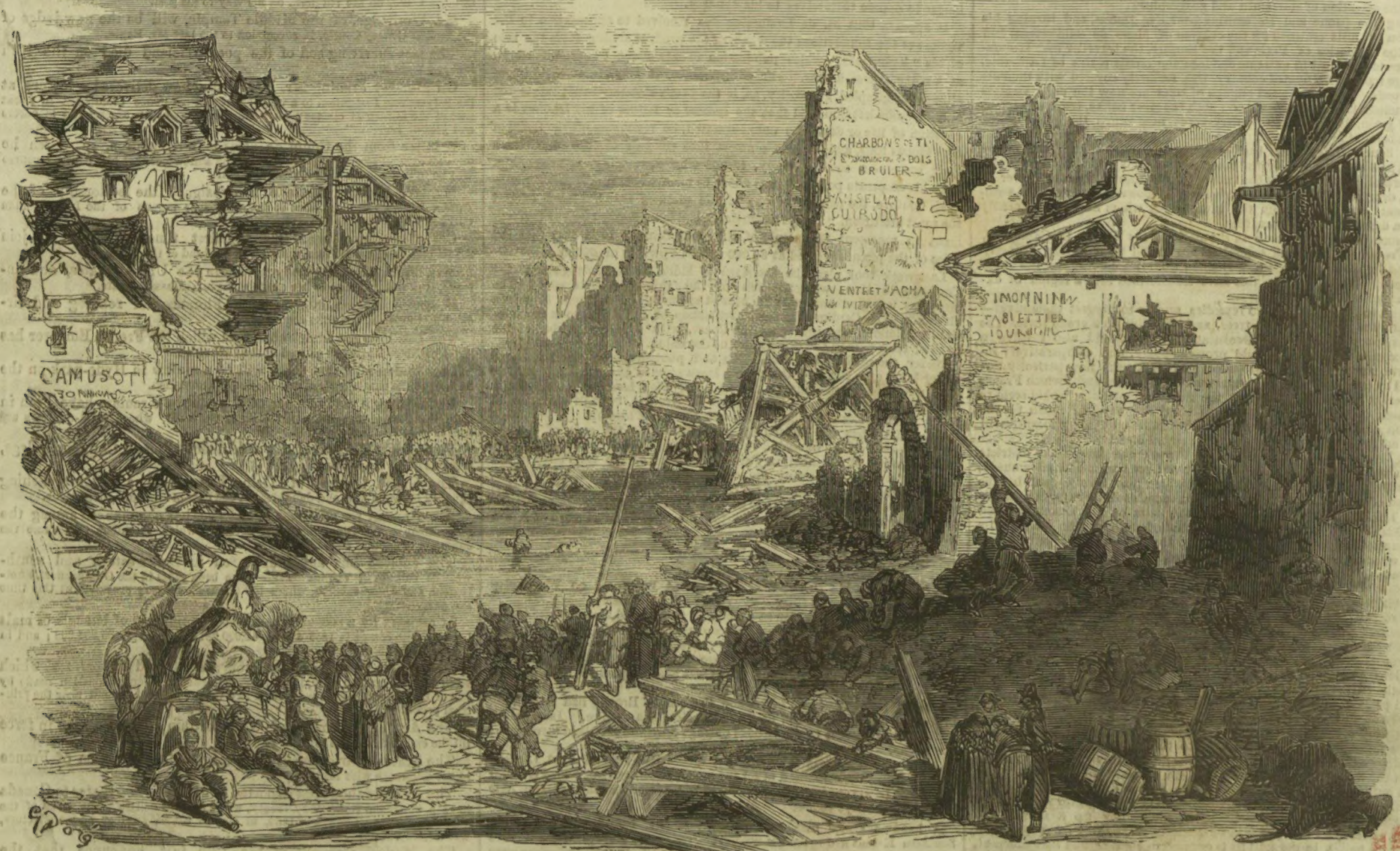
As we last week ventured to predict would be the case, the British Government has not thought fit to imitate the uncourteous, if not unfriendly, conduct of the Cabinet of Washington. Mr. Crampton and the three British Consuls have been dismissed—somewhat ignominiously—but Mr. Dallas is to remain at the Court of St. James's. Public opinion will approve the wise forbearance of the British Government. This country is too strong—has too splendid a fleet—too efficient an army—too patriotic a people—and too capacious a treasury—to be suspected of unworthy deference to the United States or any other Power in either hemisphere. There is no risk that her generosity will be misunderstood, or that her patience will be attributed to pusillanimity. The American people know her mettle, as they know their own, and will not suffer Mr. Pierce and his moribund Administration to provoke a war that would inflict incalculable injury upon both nations, and stamp indelible disgrace upon the one that should unnecessarily commence it.

Reckless as Mr. Pierce has hitherto shown himself, it is not likely that he desires to push matters to the last extremity. He has run about with his torch at the edge of the powder-magazine to show his daring, and to win the applause of such "barren spectators" as have a relish for such feats; but he

would probably regret as much as any man in America or England if an explosion were to result. He has already evinced a disposition to withdraw from the perilous contiguity of combustible material, and has accompanied the dismissal of Mr. Crampton and the three Consuls by the exposition of the reasons on which he grounded the act;—reasons which will go far to satisfy the English public that their interests will not suffer by the transference of Mr. Crampton to some other sphere of usefulness. The Enlistment question, that at one time threatened to be so exasperating, is virtually at an end. It has expired with Mr. Crampton's mission, and the world will hear no more of it. Mr. Crampton and the Consuls have been sacrificed to its mazes, and, if the United States are satisfied, Great Britain is well content.

The Central American question is more difficult. Mr. Dallas has received full powers from his Government to negotiate a final settlement of all the points in dispute. It must be confessed that the American Government and people start in the discussion with a considerable advantage over ours. They have thoroughly made up their minds, and have studied the subject, not only in its relation to their own interests, and to various political necessities scarcely appreciated, or even understood, on this side of the Atlantic, but in its relation to the temper of the people of England. They know exactly what they want. They know,

moreover, that it is of vital importance to them to obtain it, and that it is not of vital, if of any, importance to England to gain a diplomatic or any other victory over America in this matter. They will, therefore, persevere till they carry their point. Though Mr. Dallas has power to negotiate, it is only in one sense. If he fail to persuade the British Government to acquiesce in his interpretation, either of facts or treaties, he has no power to accede to those of his opponents, but can merely give them another opportunity of yielding, by referring the matter to arbitration. We shall not presume to offer any opinion upon the strict law or justice of the case; to say whether Great Britain have a right, *de facto* or *de jure*, to the Bay Islands; or declare what we may consider the equitable construction, the latent sense, or the obvious and palpable meaning of the Clayton-Bulwer Convention; but we may broadly state our own impression to be that the British public cares very little about the matter, and that it would far rather yield to the Americans all they want, if the thing could be done with the least show of dignity, than spend one shilling for gunpowder to bombard their towns or slay their citizens. Far better in every way that the shadowy King of Mosquitia should disappear altogether—like the red men in Massachusetts—and that all the country, from Texas to Panama, should be inhabited by enterprising, go-a-head traders,



THE INUNDATION AT LYONS.—SKETCHED BY GUSTAVE DORE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



of the Anglo-Saxon breed, than that Great Britain should exercise a nominal protectorate over a semi-savage and useless potentate, or maintain a barren and contested sovereignty over any portion of the islands or the continent of Central America. If Brother Jonathan will but keep cool, avoid angry words, and give British diplomacy—such as it is—a few months for quiet consideration, the whole affair will, we are convinced, be satisfactorily settled; and the United States will obtain the coveted lands, perhaps without any very great advantage to the Union, but certainly with no appreciable disadvantage to England.

There is one point in the future relations of the two countries on which sufficient attention has not yet been bestowed by the British Government. Whenever the Americans have to appoint an Ambassador to London, they select the very best and most illustrious man at their command. They may not always have the best man for President, but they never fail to send one of their worthiest men to the Court of St. James's. It is the "crack" Embassy—the highest in rank, in honour, and in influence. But the British Government does not return the compliment. The Americans think that an embassy to Washington should be as important to the English people as an embassy to Paris, Berlin, Vienna, or St. Petersburg. But the British Government thinks Washington of less consequence than Lisbon or Munich. The Americans are right, and the English Government is wrong, in this respect. When we next send an Ambassador to Washington, let a man of acknowledged talent, and of high rank, be selected; and the American people will take it as an earnest of our respect and good will towards them. Among such men as Lord Carlisle, Lord Granville, and Lord John Russell—if either of those eminent persons would accept the post—it would not be difficult to make a choice that would be acceptable to America and advantageous to England. Lord John Russell laboured under some disadvantage at Vienna, from his comparative ignorance of the French, and his total ignorance of the German language; but at Washington there would be no disqualification on this account; and his high talents, his estimable character, and his illustrious career, would recommend him to the cordial reception of the American people. If the Government could be induced to offer, and his Lordship to accept, the mission, the author of the Reform Bill would add a crowning benefit to the many which he has conferred upon his country, and entitle himself, as a pacificator, to the respect of America and the gratitude of England. But, if for any reason Lord John Russell should be unwilling or unable to undertake the dignity and the responsibility, there are other statesmen of rank and position who might be induced to render this service to their country. The Government must sooner or later bethink itself of raising the Embassy at Washington to the dignity that should belong to it, unless—which we do not suppose—this country is to remain unrepresented in America.

THE RHONE: ITS COURSE, AND SHARE IN THE RECENT INUNDATIONS.

"I SHOULD like," said an English lady to one of the monks of the Simplon, "to travel on an avalanche, if only for the sake of feeling what it would be like." "Madam," answered the reverend father, "I am afraid that at the end of your journey you would not be in a condition to describe your sensations." The idea, though impracticable, was original and bold; but the traveller along the Swiss valleys has dangers to confront greater even than that which formed the subject of the lady's wish.

It would seem impossible to treat of the Rhone otherwise than as the theme of tourists, the subject of romance, or the scene of historical events almost deserving this latter designation. Its very name conjures up recollections of Lake Lemán, Clarendon, the rocks of La Meillerie, and the glowing pages of la nouvelle "Heloise;" but it is nevertheless a fact that this noble river has other claims than these, and that it has at all times excited the attention of statesmen and geographers.

Leaving the Saône and its smiling banks at Mâcon, and turning his back upon the hills crowned by the château of Mons de Rambuteau, and dear to the memories of Paris and the Empire, the traveller sees stretching before him till lost in extreme distance the fertile plains of La Bresse. This large tract of cultivated country was formerly covered with impenetrable woods. A few scattered clumps of trees are now the only vestiges of the ancient forests. Vineyards on both the river banks, crops of various kinds of grain, fishponds and poultry-yards, now usurp the place of the oak, the beech, the maple, and the elm. The change, though in most respects beneficial, has this bad effect—the banks, which then, firmly clamped and held together by the tenacious grip of spreading and gigantic roots, formed a natural embankment to the most impetuous river in Europe, deprived of this support, have proved powerless against the swollen current; and hence result the inundations which now so frequently follow a duration of rainy weather.

The second cause is to be found in the delta of the Rhone, La Camargue, which French engineers and capitalists are yet far from having properly reclaimed; though the Dutch or English would, according to the most experienced opinion, have ere this have transformed into a region of extraordinary fertility.

To remove these defects two remedies appear to suggest themselves—replanting the river bank with trees, and irrigation on a grand scale. The first, besides being a process necessitating time, would also involve a heavy expense; the latter would prove a speedy, and comparatively inexpensive, undertaking. The science of irrigation is now perfectly understood by engineers; and it is while the circumstances under which France is at present labouring exist that the fittest opportunity would seem to offer itself to the combined talent of both French and English for the provision of some remedy which would place these unhappy localities in safety, and prevent the recurrence of a parallel disaster.

The English traveller who has visited France, and knows the districts through which the river Rhone runs from Lyons to the Mediterranean, can hardly form any idea of the ruin which has been caused by the irruption of these waters. The inundation includes in its ravages upwards of 550 English miles, from Lyons to the delta of La Camargue, and from Orleans to the sea through the whole length of the Isère to its junction with the Rhone—that is to say, that the waters covered a vast extent of country, not less than 500 leagues, or 1200 English miles.

There is some difference in the estimate as to the extent of territory which has been subject to these inundations—some stating the area to be 600 miles in length, and others 1200 miles. But, were either of those figures correct, it would be almost impossible to form an accurate idea of the nature of the calamity itself. Let them for a moment suppose that the sea which surrounded England were to make an inroad on the coast of Devonshire, and were to sweep with one broad current through the whole length and breadth of this island, they might then, in some degree, realise the extent of the damage which France has suffered. The most fruitful parts of that country have been devastated by the floods. Nearly 40,000 human habitations have been destroyed or so seriously damaged as to require reconstruction.

These reflections irresistibly lead us to the consideration of a point in psychology not a little interesting—the far greater interest taken by mankind in the misfortunes of individuals than in those of numbers, which we can only account for by the supposition that a disaster which comprehends the destruction of a whole population is too great for the grasp of the human heart. An earthquake may swallow up a nation, and awaken, indeed, all our powers of astonishment and awe; but let a poor labourer be buried in the well he is engaged in sinking, and how different, how infinitely more personal, are the emotions called into play by the accident? We seem to hear his stifled cries for help, and bend all our energies to his rescue. The fate of the man rouses impulses which the fall of a nation fails to excite.

The human heart is full of such phenomena, and it is for this reason that, in the history of the inundation which at present occupies the attention of all France, the mind is overwhelmed by the greatness of the calamity; it is the "episode," the "incident" which strikes up and awakens all our genuine feelings of pity and sorrow. A few among the many, such are presented to our readers by the pencil of an eyewitness.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE fêtes of the baptism continue to form the great subject of excitement of the moment. Happily the weather, though on Saturday somewhat threatening, has, on the whole, been decidedly favourable; and, being cooler than during the preceding week, has been less fatiguing to the sight-seeing crowd. Seldom, if ever, has the traffic in window-letting been so extensive and so expensive as on the occasion of the passage of the Imperial cortège. Not only were the windows of the dwellings, from ground-floor to garret, hired out, but numbers of shops had their fronts removed where they could not be opened, and their counters displaced, in order to establish stages and platforms, each chair on which was let at from ten to fifteen francs, while each shopkeeper had in his pay a band of gamins, or boyish idlers, to pursue the passers-by—the English more especially—and capture them if possible. Certain windows were let at upwards of £20, and in some balconies was exposed the notice—"To be let for the benefit of the victims of the inundations." A part of the decorations of Notre Dame were strikingly magnificent, but the taste that presided over the rest is extremely questionable, the introduction of gaudy colours and tinsel ornaments of the most flimsy description, bearing little analogy with the style and purpose of the edifice. The external decorations were no less brilliant than those of the interior, and were in a sort of Byzantine style. The cortège was, in all respects, singularly magnificent and imposing. The Cardinal Patrizi in a carriage drawn by eight horses, and preceded by his *porte-croix* in another carriage, led the van, attended by an escort of cavalry, but received little or no demonstration from the spectators. Much more enthusiasm greeted the approach of the Imperial infant, in (we believe) the carriage occupied by the Emperor and Empress on the occasion of their marriage, at the right and left of which rode the *Maréchaux* Canrobert and Bosquet, thus recalling the address of the Emperor, who, when announcing to them their new dignities, particularly recommended to them the protection of his son. The Emperor and Empress were also greeted with much warmth. Her Majesty's dress was white over a blue skirt, and a diadem of brilliants encircled her head. After the ceremony the Emperor and Empress proceeded to the Hôtel de Ville, to partake of the magnificent banquet prepared for them, and the Prince Imperial returned to the Tuilleries, whence, in the evening, he was reconducted to St. Cloud. The Duc d'Albe alone represented the family of the Empress on this occasion, the Duchess and the Comtesse Montijo not having sufficiently recovered from the fatigues of their late journey.

A whisper is beginning to arise that before many months have expired there may be a prospect of a second Imperial christening: such an announcement seems to us at least premature, but, true or false, we wish not to be behindhand in mentioning its existence.

In the midst of these rejoicings fresh details full of the most painful interest are daily arriving from the scenes of the inundations. Among the most horrible are the accounts of the graveyards and cemeteries, torn up by the torrents, and the skeletons and bodies, more or less decomposed, caught in trees and left hanging there after the subsiding of the waters. Certainly in no circumstances of the career of Napoleon III. have the sympathies of all been so warmly and entirely drawn to him as on this late occasion. In one instance, when he was standing up to his knees in water, among the ruins of one of the most populous and most suffering parts of Lyons, a well-known demagogue, whose antecedents presented not a few judicial condemnations on political grounds, approached the Emperor, saying, "Monsieur, I do not partake of your opinions, or belong to your party, but I approve of what you are doing, c'est très bien." It is said, moreover, that the president of one of the secret democratic clubs at Lyons has written to the Emperor to announce to him, in his own name and in that of all its members, that the association is, in consequence of the gratitude and admiration excited by his Majesty's late efforts, dissolved, and that all take the voluntary engagement no longer to oppose themselves to his dynasty.

It appears that M. de Lamartine has resolved to appropriate to the victims of the inundations the whole of the produce arising from the sale of his "Entretiens," which publication counts about 60,000 subscribers, at twenty francs a year. The circumstance, if true, is an instance of almost unexampled generosity, as, if the poet's statement that this is the only resource left him, and that the success or failure of his labours is a question of life or death be unexaggerated, he renounces all the fruits of his arduous toils, and is again plunged into the gulf of ruin from which his success—a success nearly, if not wholly, sufficient to relieve him from his desperate position—was about to extricate him.

M. Couture, the painter of one of the pictures that has lately excited the most attention, "l'Orgie Romaine," has been charged by the Government to represent the scene of the christening. It is said that the price of the picture is fixed at 80,000 francs, upwards of £3000.

Last week took place the marriage of Mlle. le Hon, daughter of the Comtesse le Hon, with the son of the Prince Poniatowski. The ceremony was conducted with the utmost splendour. The Prince Napoleon attended. The Cardinal Donnat, Archbishop of Bordeaux, gave the nuptial benediction; and nearly all the Court, with a large number of the Senate, took part in the celebration of the union.

Nadar, the celebrated draughtsman and photographer, is occupied in the erection of a princely atelier on a large piece of ground, well planted with fine trees, in the Rue St. Lazare; and Diaz has just completed a beautiful house and studio in the Mont St. Georges, built in the style of Louis XIII., after drawings executed by the artist himself.

The Sultan has transmitted by his Ambassador the sum of 40,000*fr.* for the benefit of the *inondés*.

The scholars of a school in Paris, on hearing of the trait cited in our last week's letter respecting the ouvriers of the Faubourg Montmartre, requested that no meat should be cooked for them for one day, and that the products of the saving should go to the same charity.

The Opéra Comique will shortly bring out a posthumous work of Adam with a poem of Scribe.

AMERICA.

By the steam-ship *Baltic*, which arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday evening, we have news from New York to the 7th inst.

The democratic convention at Cincinnati terminated their labours on the 6th. The ballot delegates unanimously nominated Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Dallas's predecessor in this country; the opponents were Pierce and Douglas. The convention on the second ballot nominated John C. Breckenridge for Vice-President, which was also adopted by a large majority.

The effigies of President Pierce and Preston S. Brooks had been hung in front of the State-house, at Concord, New Hampshire. Indignation meetings in reference to the Brooks outrage continue to be held throughout the States.

Advices from Kansas reported that orders had reached Fort Leavenworth placing the command of all the troops in the territory with General Harvey. Lawrence is reported quiet. The correspondence of the *New York Tribune* says that—

A hundred armed men left Westport, Mobile, last Saturday to scour Southern Kansas and make the country, as they said, "too hot for the Free State people." Guerilla parties were scouring the territory, and collisions were occasionally occurring; but the general disposition of the free people is to remain quiet and pursue their farming. Settlers were coming into the territory in considerable numbers from Indiana and Illinois.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Her Majesty has signified her intention of honouring the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster with her presence at Grosvenor-house, on occasion of the fête to be given by the Marchioness on the 26th inst.

The Emperor of the French has presented, through the Earl of Duce, the sum of 1000*fr.* to the Sailors' Institute at Shadwell.

The Municipal Council of Nantes has resolved that a request should be respectfully presented to the Emperor to accept from that town a residence for the Prince Imperial.

On the 10th inst. King Leopold and all the Royal family of Belgium accompanied the Countess de Neully and the Duke and Duchess of Nemours from Laeken to Brussels. The Duke and Duchess of Brabant and the Count of Flanders accompanied the ex-Queen to Ostend, where they arrived at five o'clock in the afternoon.

The Emperor Alexander has ordered that only those tradesmen who supply the Imperial couple shall in future be permitted to place the Imperial coat of arms over their doors, whilst those who furnish the Grand Dukes and other members of the reigning family are only to mount a shield containing the initials of such member, surmounted by a crown.

Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert have forwarded to the Lord Mayor donations of one thousand and five hundred pounds respectively in aid of the fund now raising at the Mansion-house for the relief of the sufferers by the inundations in France.

The French Emperor has given 600,000*fr.* out of his private cassette to the sufferers from the inundations of the Rhone and Loire.

The distribution of the Queen's medals to the Sardinian troops at Turin passed off with great success. There was an immense concourse of spectators from all parts of Italy.

The Czar Alexander has conferred the order of Saint Anne of the first class upon General Edgar Ney, who was lately sent to St. Petersburg on an extraordinary mission.

The Grand Duke Michael keeps Prince Charles of Prussia and the artillery department, of which the latter is Grand Master, on the continual *qui vive*. Scarcely a day passes without the Grand Duke attending at the drill and practice of field and siege batteries.

The veteran General Neumann, first aide-de-camp to the King of Prussia in waiting, and fifth senior officer not of Princely rank in the army, has received from the Czar the insignia of St. Alexander Newsky in diamonds.

Mr. Crampton, late British Minister of the United States of America, arrived in London on Monday, and had an interview with the Earl of Clarendon. Mr. Crampton also paid a visit to Viscount Palmerston.

His Excellency the Ambassador of France left town on the 13th inst. for Paris, in order to be present at the baptism of the Imperial Prince on the following day.

The ex-King of Oude landed at Folkestone on Wednesday afternoon, accompanied by E. L. Coffey, Esq., and suite, and left for town by express train on the South-Eastern Railway.

The Dowager Queen of the Netherlands has reached Warsaw on her way back to the Hague, but she will first visit a German bath.

Accounts from Christiania represent the reception of the Crown Prince in that city, in his new capacity of Viceroy of Norway, as most enthusiastic and brilliant, and his arrival had been celebrated by great rejoicings and numerous festivals, balls, illuminations, and other gaieties.

Governor Sir G. Barkly has arrived in this country from Jamaica; and, after receiving instructions from her Majesty's Government, will proceed to his new government in Australia.

The Emperor Alexander II. accepted during his late visit to Berlin, from the King of Prussia, the Grand Cross of Commander of the Order of the Royal House of Hohenzollern.

Sir Colin Campbell has fixed Monday, the 30th inst., as the day of his arrival in Glasgow. He will take up his residence on that day at Possil-house, as the guest of Sir Archibald Alison, and make his first public appearance in the city of his birth on the following day.

Russia has withdrawn her protest against the nomination by Turkey of Prince Stourdza as a member of the Principalities Commission.

Mr. Joseph Fowler, President of the St. George's Society, has been appointed Acting Consul at New York.

The hand of the Spanish Infanta Donna Amelia was demanded at a solemn audience, on behalf of the Prince Adalbert of Bavaria, on Monday last.

Count de Persigny has been raised, by decree dated June 16, to the dignity of Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour.

Lord Stanhope and the Marquis of Londonderry have arrived at Vienna from the Crimea. They are en route for the springs of Malenbod.

The ex-King Don Ferdinand arrived at Lisbon on the 6th inst. from his visit to Spain.

By order of the French Emperor medals commemorating the christening of the Imperial Prince have been distributed to all the children of the colleges, academies, and schools, and also to the sub-officers and soldiers of the army of Paris.

Miss Nightingale is expected to arrive in England about the middle of next month.

M. De Kisseleff, Russian Ambassador to the See of Rome, passed through Venice on the 7th inst., on his way to his post.

Mr. Worledge, of the Middle Temple, will be the new judge of the Suffolk County Courts, in succession to the late Mr. Eagle.

The last surviving son of the poet Wieland died on the 10th inst., at Weimar.

On Monday evening Mr. Henry Mayhew delivered a lecture at the Polytechnic Institution to a very numerous audience (composed in great part of the industrial classes), on "The curiosities of life among the labourers and poor of London."

A letter from the Count de Paris is in circulation, in which he protests against any notion of a fusion, and announces that his political course will be in accordance with his father's will.

Mr. W. Bernard McCabe has resigned the editorship of the *Dublin Weekly Telegraph*—one of the newspaper organs of the Irish Roman Catholic party.

Christians have been, for the first time, admitted to join the procession of the Bairam, and to kiss the hand of the Sultan.

Mrs. Fanny Kemble has arrived in the United States; and intends, it is said, to retire to her estate at Lenox, Massachusetts.

Giovanni Ruggero, lately tried in Florence for reading and circulating the Bible, has been acquitted.

The bell brought from Sebastopol which the French Emperor has given to Notre Dame has arrived at the Cathedral.

It is understood that there will be a review in Hyde-park on the 28th inst., the anniversary of her Majesty's coronation.

In Hanover a vast number of Communist circulars have been in circulation, emanating from a society of Germans, whose head-quarters are said to be in London.

Prior Park, the seat of the once famous Roman Catholic College, is to be sold on the 24th inst.

The Grand Council of Ticino has passed a bill establishing equality between sons and daughters in the case of intestate successions.

A movement for an advance of wages has commenced among the power-loom weavers and winders of Preston, which threatens to assume the character of another strike.

The cholera has again appeared in the western and south-western suburbs of Vienna. There have been cases in the Gumpendorf, Shotteufeld, and Alser suburbs, where the disease was very prevalent at this time last year.

It appears by a recent return that the number of bushels of malt brought into charge in 1853-4 was 41,020,381; in 1854-5, 35,208,608; and in 1855-6, 33,524,330.

The jewels recently stolen from the Madrid Chapel, and which were worth 7,000,000 reals, have, in consequence of a communication made by one of the thieves, been found buried in a vacant piece of ground near the principal prison.

The Act for the Survey of Great Britain is to continue in force till the end of the year 1861.

The Spanish Government has accepted the mediation of France in the difference with Mexico.

The value of the goods exported from the United States to Canada in 1855, under the Reciprocity Treaty, was 9,500,000 dollars. The value of the goods exported to Canada in 1855, of United States' product or manufacture, was £4,189,761.

The Madrid journals of the 12th inst. announce that the Governor of Cuba had reported that the most perfect tranquillity prevailed in the island, and that on hearing the insult which Spain had received in Mexico he had sent to Vera Cruz a frigate and two smaller vessels.

THOUGHTS IN THOROUGHFARES.

I HAVE on a former occasion alluded to the perambulator nuisance on the pavements, which, according to a report in the newspapers, has driven an irritated old gentleman to a police court for redress. It is evident, however, that the infants' friends are so numerous as to leave little chance of sympathy to an elderly complainant; and accordingly the veteran who went to state his grievance retired amid the "titters" of his audience. The children's party appears to be so strong at present that the pavements must be abandoned to the equipages of the juvenile population, while the maturer portion of the public makes its way as it best can, by dodging the carriages drawn by horses on the one hand, and those propelled by nursemaids on the other. The great street-organ question is another subject connected with the quiet enjoyment of the public thoroughfares in which the juvenile interest may be said to clash with the convenience of the public in general. It is hopeless for the gentleman engaged in philosophical reflections or mathematical calculations at No. 1 to attempt to get rid of the nuisance of that music while there is a mater-familias at number two who insists on her baby being danced at the window to any tune that may be ground on the organ below. Street music may be a real blessing to mothers, but it is often a serious inconvenience to fathers; and a determined band with their brazen instruments of torture will continue their operations in spite of all the remonstrances of the angry gentleman over the way, so long as encouragement is to be had from a smiling party of females and juveniles opposite. The only way to put down street-music—if it ought to be abolished—is to make it penal to patronise it, just as it has been proposed to put an end to street begging by inflicting a fine on every one convicted of giving money to a mendicant. No less an individual than Mr. Babbage appeared to complain the other day of the disturbance of his scientific pursuits by a street-musician who had answered remonstrances with threats, and who was very properly fined by the magistrate. The protection of Mr. Babbage from any temporary stoppage of his intellectual machinery by the hand-organ nuisance is a matter in which the public may be said to be concerned, for his scientific labours are far more profitable to society than "The Ratcatcher's Daughter," or any other equally popular air can possibly be to the children of his neighbourhood opposite. It may be all very well to denounce an enemy to street organs as "the man who hath not music in his soul," but a man may have plenty of music in his soul without wishing to have an extra supply laid on through his windows. It is true that "music hath charms to soothe;" but, under certain circumstances, it has also power to irritate.

The penny-a-liners seemed determined to make the most of their last opportunity in dealing with Palmer, and his execution was made the medium of introducing a quantity of irrelevant matter, under the various heads of "another account," "further details," and "additional particulars." Among other equally interesting matter, a sort of biographical account of the hangman was given; and the important fact has been duly chronicled that Palmer had "salad" on more than one occasion during his imprisonment at Stafford. It is strange that the "dressing" was not described at full length, for a judicious penny-a-liner might have made threepence at least by the ingredients. If, however, we were not told how the salad was dressed, no such omission occurred with reference to the hangman, for his costume was described with much minuteness. The bills of Madame Tussaud's latest "additions" to her collection of culprits still meet the eye on the walls, and in other places where the announcements of public amusements are exhibited; but Palmer will no doubt cease to be the star of Baker-street when he is eclipsed by some other more recent criminal. Perhaps in time the wax of which he is composed will be "run down" into some other form, and the materials employed in moulding the murderer may be hereafter used in making a philanthropist, if such a character is eligible for admission into such very distinguished company as that which Madame Tussaud is surrounded with.

Notwithstanding the promises of the General Omnibus Company, the thoroughfares are not yet supplied with those commodious vehicles which will prevent the necessity for still crushing one's hat against the roof, treading on the feet of one's fellow-passengers on entering or quitting the conveyance, and maintaining a cramped position, to prevent collision with the knees of the person opposite. Convenient omnibuses are said to have been seen here and there in different parts of town; but, if they exist at all, they are by no means general; and at the West-end a single one is understood to have been put upon the Brompton-road, where it serves rather as a vehicle for the satirical observations or "chaff" of the drivers and conductors of the old machines than as a vehicle for public convenience.

The metropolis has now been for some months in the hands of the new Board of Works, which seems to be by no means unanimous in its movements. Any great improvement in the aboveground communications of London must not be expected until the work to be done below the surface—the drainage, with which the Board of Works is especially charged—has been agreed upon. At each meeting some new motion is brought forward, an amendment is proposed, a debate ensues, and an adjournment generally follows. In public bodies it may be remarked that the constant repetition of motion after motion is a serious check on movement. At present the grand question is that of an "outfall" for the drainage of London; but while the members of the Board are continually falling out among themselves, an "outfall" of a more useful kind is not easily agreed upon.

Even the most philosophic of pedestrians would scarcely look for heroes and heroines among the professional mendicants who throng the streets; but we are assured, on the faith of a gentleman who has paid much attention to the subject, and who has been lecturing on it recently at the Polytechnic Institution, that the rags of our ragamuffins conceal, or rather garnish, much true nobility. Among other specimens of Nature's aristocracy the street clown is said to be entitled to a high position—a fact which would not have been suspected by those who had seen him merely swinging a ball about at the end of a string to keep back the boys, and performing some rather ordinary evolutions on a piece of carpet in the middle of the carriage-way. I am by no means inclined to dispute the result of the observations of the gentleman to whom I allude; and it is certainly a more reasonable as well as a more wholesome theory, that heroism is to be found in the mountebank, than that the criminal classes should be elevated into the principal characters of plays or romances, as they have sometimes been by novelists and dramatists. There is no doubt that there is much kindness towards each other among the poor, but there is a kind of endurance sometimes to be met with among the street population that is not altogether respectable. The voluntary exposure of shoeless feet in cold weather is often a self-inflicted penance which is voluntarily suffered because it is found to pay; but the endurance of street beggars is of a different kind from that which has been noticed as characteristic of the street clown, of whom a type is presented in the modern play of "Belphegor," which may fairly win the admiration of

A WALKING PHILOSOPHER.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR M. H. NEPEAN, BART.

SIR MOLYNEUX HYDE NEPEAN, second Baronet, of Bothenhampton, and Loder's Court, in the county of Dorset, died at Lee Hall, near Hexham, Northumberland, on the 4th inst. He was the eldest son of the first Baronet, the Right Hon. Sir Evan Nepean, many years Under Secretary of State, and M.P. for Queensborough and Bridport, by his wife, Margaret, daughter of Captain William Skinner. He was born the 20th September, 1783, and succeeded to the family title and estates in Dorsetshire on the death of his father, the 2nd October, 1822. Sir Molyneux was for nearly thirty years clerk to the Supreme Court in Jamaica. He married, first, 30th August, 1813, Charlotte, youngest daughter of Philip Tigheman, Esq., by whom (who died the 26th June, 1838) he had three sons and six daughters, of whom survive two sons and one daughter. He married, secondly, the 30th May, 1852, Lydia Clark, eldest daughter of William Clark Wright, Esq., of Muston House, Northumberland, by his wife, Charlotte, daughter of Joshua Parr, Esq., of Pentree Paer, Carmarthenshire. Sir Molyneux by his second marriage had one daughter, who only survived her birth a few weeks. Sir Molyneux is succeeded by his eldest son, Molyneux Hyde, now the third Baronet, who was born the 2nd July, 1814, and married, the 27th April, 1841, Isabella, only daughter of Colonel Geils, of Dumbuck, county Dumbarton.

SIR ALEXANDER CRICHTON, M.D., F.R.S.

THIS venerable and talented physician died on the 4th instant, at his residence, The Grove, near Sevenoaks, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. He was son of Alexander Crichton, Esq., of Newington, and grandson of Patrick Crichton, of Woodhouselee and Newington, Mid Lothian. Sir Alexander was for many years Physician in Ordinary to Alexander I., Emperor of Russia, and also physician to the household of the late Duke of Cambridge. He was one of the oldest, if not the oldest, Fellows of the Royal Society, having been elected in 1800. He was a member of various other British and foreign learned societies, and was a Knight of two Russian and one Prussian Order; and received permission to wear those orders in England, on his return, in 1820. He was also created a Knight-Bachelor in 1820. Sir Alexander Crichton was the author of some valuable medical works, particularly of a book on "Mental Derangement." He married, in 1800, Miss Dodwell, only daughter of Edward Dodwell, Esq., of West Moulsey, Surrey.

SIR WILLIAM OGLE CARR.

SIR WILLIAM OGLE CARR, Knight, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at Ceylon, died in that colony on the 25th of last April, in his fifty-fourth year. He was the third son of William Thomas Carr, Esq., of Frogna, Hampstead. He became a student of Gray's Inn in 1820, and was called to the bar by the society of that inn on the 26th of April, 1826. Going to Ceylon, he was admitted King's Advocate there, and in December, 1839, he was appointed second Puisne Judge of the colony. In April, 1854, he was made Chief Justice of Ceylon and created a Knight. Sir William Ogle Carr married Miss Clement, the daughter of Colonel John A. Clement, of the Royal Artillery.

LIEUT.-COLONEL CAMERON.

LIEUT.-COLONEL WILLIAM GORDON CAMERON, of Nea House, died on the 26th ult. He was the eldest son of General Cameron, of the East India Company's service, and was born at Chunar, on the 14th of June, 1790. Entering the Army early in life, he was in the Grenadier Guards during the latter years of the Peninsular War, and was wounded at Barossa. Colonel Cameron was attached to the staff of Wellington at Waterloo. The loss of his right arm and other severe wounds in that memorable battle incapacitated him from further active service.

GEORGE BENNETT, ESQ., Q.C.

THIS respected gentleman, who died on the 26th ult. at his residence, Sodyl-hall, Shropshire, in his seventy-eighth year, was called to the bar in Ireland in 1800, and became a Queen's Counsel there in 1822. He was a distinguished advocate during a period when the Irish bar abounded in great names: his practice was for many years unrivalled both in the equity and the common law courts. He was the friend and intimate of nearly all his illustrious contemporaries, and was himself one of the last remaining types of a great legal era. He filled for a long period the office of leading Crown Prosecutor for Munster, and was for some time the "father" of the Munster bar. In politics he was strongly and firmly attached to Protestant principles. Mr. Bennett quitted the bar about seven years since, and went to live at his seat in Shropshire, where he spent the close of his life in domestic retirement.

J. N. AUGUSTIN THIERRY.

THIS eminent historian, who died at Paris on the 21st ult., was born at Blois in the Department of Loire et Cher, in 1795; he was educated at Paris. Devoting himself early in life to the study of history, he eventually became one of the greatest writers on that subject of his time and country. His most famous works are, "The Conquest of England by the Normans," "Letters on the History of France," and "The Narrative of the Merovingian Time." For the last twenty years Baron Gobert's annual prize of 10,000fr. for history has been awarded to Thierry. Thierry was a member of the Academy of Science and Belles Lettres, but he declined standing for the Académie Française, because his election would have disqualified him from the Gobert prize. This premium was as kindly as it was rightly given; for during the twenty years of its receipt M. Thierry has been blind, and paralysed on one side. The loss of his sight was brought on by intense labour in his historic pursuits. He lately wrote in reference to his infirmities:—"If I had to recommence my career, I would do what I have done. Blind and suffering, without hope, and almost without intermission, I can bear impartial witness that there is something in this world of more value than material enjoyment, better than fortune, better than health itself, and that is devotion to knowledge."

THE UNIVERSAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION
IN PARIS, 1856.(From our Special Correspondent.)
SECOND NOTICE.

THE Exhibition closed on the 11th June, by a formal distribution of the first prizes—a tedious and monotonous affair (in the absence of the Emperor and Empress), of no sort of interest after the first half hour to any one except the prizeholders. The total prizes amounted to nearly £18,000, and these seem to have been distributed on the principle of rewarding every class and every nation that exhibited without any serious attempt to ascertain, in a few days, the respective and exact merits of many hundred animals, machines, and articles. All who have carefully followed the course of exhibitions, whether agricultural or industrial, must have come to the conclusion that, in nine cases out of ten, it is impossible to discover what is the absolutely best animal, and still more the best machine, although it is easy to decide that such and such animals or implements are good enough to deserve a prize of some sort. All that the public ought to expect is a minimum of merit in the prize-winners. In fact, the Paris Exhibition was a sort of lottery, where those who drew prizes had merit of some kind, and those who drew blanks were left not without hope that they might win on a future occasion. The awards of the juries in almost every class are open to objection; in machinery they were frequently absurd; but comment would come very ungraciously from this side of the water, where breeders and implement-makers have found, from the liberality of the French Government, a new market and a new medium of publicity opened, not in France only, but the whole of Europe. The real sufferers will be the foreign purchasers who happen to be misled by premiums given to worthless implements and ill-shaped animals.

Our own Royal Agricultural Society has been stimulated by the example of the French Government, not only to offer premiums for foreign animals at the ensuing show at Chelmsford, in July next, but to pay the expenses of the carriage of such animals from the port of debarkation to the showyard. In consequence of this reciprocal arrangement a selection of the best French breeds and some Swiss cattle will be sent, which, although of no sort of value for ordinary agricultural purposes, may find purchasers among those who now keep the picturesque Alderney. The Schwitz breed is quite as picturesque, with its dun colour, black nose, black horns, and long, bushy, black tail, as the Alderney, much larger, and capable on suitable rich pasture of giving a greater quantity of milk.

Lord Hastings, of Melton Constable, Norfolk, has purchased a picked herd, consisting of two bulls and eleven cows of this choice milking breed, rejecting a couple of the best milkers because they varied to a light grey colour. The breed might be traced in the Exhibition from Switzerland, through Germany, following the mountain ranges, where rich valleys are to be found in summer, into Styria, in the Austrian dominions, and (as a cross) into the mountain districts of Hungary.

The only other animals that could be profitably exhibited in England are the Merino sheep. For these our colonies in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa afford a constant demand; and an annual show of good saleable animals, at from £15 to £40 each, would probably find regular customers.

The French Bretonne cows (of which an Illustration appears in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of 14th inst.) found several English purchasers as fancy stock. They are very small, quite as small as the Alderney, with more delicate limbs, of a black and white colour, with beautiful deer-like heads, small, smooth, upright horns, and are great milk-producers. A couple would be found more hardy, nearly as good milkers, and, as a novelty, even more picturesque than the Alderney, grazed on the little paddocks of suburban residences. They have more size than the Kerry, and more constitution than the Ayrshire, but are, probably from want of cultivation, inferior commercially to both. The show of Ayrshires was very fine. They seemed decidedly the best dairy cattle in the Exhibition, and sold well. But it is to be doubted whether in a French farmyard they will continue to produce their usual quantity of milk without the care and the succulent roots of their native Scotland. The Kerrys shown were picked specimens, and the cow engraved was perfection. The price asked was in proportion.

The most useful stock exhibited by the French were the Charolais, the Flamande, and the Normandé. The Charolais is a pure white breed, evidently closely allied to our Shorthorns. It is impossible to say what careful selection might do towards improving it; but in the present demand for beef in France the short and ready course will be to cross with the Shorthorn from good herds—that is to say, from good young bulls which are in use among north-country farmers, and not from animals reared on the milk of two or three cows, and fattened like bullocks to win premiums by fat, not muscle. The Flamande is a breed of large red cattle, famous in the dairy, with a distinctive character, showing a pure breed. It is a matter of consideration whether the best cross to improve it will be a Hereford or Shorthorn. As almost all the draught-work in the field and in the road is done by cattle in France, the draught qualities of the breed must be considered in every attempt at improvement. The Hereford is a good ox at plough, and therefore, taking the affinity of appearance into consideration, it will be a better cross than the Shorthorn for ordinary farmers. The Normandé is a large, thick-skinned, bony race, of many colours, including black and white, and probably a mixture of several northern breeds. It is the pride of Normandy, and most profitable in the dairy. At six years old the ox gives plenty of beef; but it seems, as a butcher's animal, in just the unprofitable condition that all our horned stock were when Bakenell, seventy years ago, laid down the principles of breeding, and prepared the way for the labours which have made our modern Shorthorn, Hereford, Devon, and Polled Angus what they are.

It is the opinion of a Swiss agriculturist of the first class, well acquainted with all the breeds of Europe, that the Swiss cows of Fribourg, Berne, and other districts where parti-colours prevail, and which, in my opinion, generally bear a strong resemblance to Normandy and Dutch cows, must be extensively crossed with the beef-making Shorthorn of England. The same remark applies to all those northern districts of France where good grass is to be found. The dairy is gradually becoming a secondary consideration, or at any rate railroads have opened meat markets before unknown. But the prejudices of the French farmers are very strong, and these prejudices have been strengthened by the failure of fancy animals, bought in England at fancy prices. The Germans, who read more, who have larger farms, more capital, and more intelligent bailiffs, will profit sooner than the French from the Paris Exhibition. In the district of the Midi and south of France, in the district of peasant proprietors where the milk cow draws the cart and the plough, and iron is more rare in implements than gold ornaments among our mechanics, improvement seems hopeless; the peasant agriculture, except of vineyards, is retrograding—that is the unpleasant truth.

Beside the French and British exhibitors of cattle, fair specimens of peculiar breeds have been sent from Holland, from Denmark and Schleswig-Holstein, from Switzerland three different races, and from the Austrian dominions animals representing everything but beef.

The novel divisions of the Cattle Exhibition may be characterised as—1st, cattle specially reared for the dairy; 2nd, for the dairy and for draught; and, 3rd, the nearly wild races, which (like our Scotch cattle before they were improved) feed on mountain districts and uncultivated plains, and are valued chiefly for their skins and flesh.

The Dutch make a large show of those great bony black-and-white cattle that are not unfrequently found in our markets and our dairy-farms, and which form a feature in Flemish landscapes. In the dairy—fed as the Dutch and Holsteins feed them—their excellent qualities are well known; but they are most unprofitable beasts to fatten, and now that the demand for exportation is so constant, we may expect that these Exhibitions will lead the breeders of Northern Europe to try for a little of the symmetry of form and quality which will make their oxen acceptable in the English markets. I am astonished to find the agricultural correspondent of a contemporary recommending our dairy farmers to cross their stock with a black and white Dutch bull. Such a cross is contrary to every principle of breeding. The male animal gives the external locomotive organs, the female the internal or vital organs. To cross with a Dutch bull would be to lose quality of flesh without the slightest chance of gaining the milking qualities needed. There is no history extant of the cattle colonisation of Europe, but I made some curious discoveries in the Exhibition. I found a striking resemblance to our Devons in the "Voigeland" breed from Saxony, and also the D'Angeln or Du Geest breed exhibited by the Agricultural Society of Schleswig. The Schleswig cows wore the harness attached to their horns by which they do the work of the farm. The Saxon animals, which are the better of the two, do not work. A cross with good Devon bulls would open the English exportation to these two breeds, and would not unfit them even for draught. The other Holstein cattle do not show any particular breed; they are of all colours and forms, all good milkers, and among them no doubt are descendants from the original stock of our Shorthorns.

There are some most satisfactory results in the Exhibition, from crosses between the Shorthorn and the Charolais, the Flamande, the Normandé, and also between the Devon and a small red race, "Salers," exhibited by the Emperor.

There are a number of other French breeds which bear the decided marks of an aboriginal race. The Gasconne, a dun grey, with black nose, dark flat horns, heavy dewlap extending between fore legs, and thick, black, bushy tail, which might pass in a park for a wild animal; and the Bazadaise, of a grey badger-colour, black nose and tail, which is celebrated in the wine countries as a superior animal for draught, but not for milk. It is not likely that any of these dun native breeds can be improved by British crosses, because they are required for draught and milk, and their characters are so distinctly marked that it would be difficult to change them. The Salers are like bad Devons, and, as before observed, have been successfully crossed with Devons. The Parthenaise are a real breed, of a red dun, like a large coarse Alderney; they are found near Nantes; the cows are all worked.

What is most needed by Continental improvers is a report on the suitability of the different improved breeds of British live stock to the various districts of Europe—hot, temperate, and cold—marsh, pastures, plains, and mountains. Some committee of learned Germans, assisted by our practical breeders, will do this, no doubt. The French, who know, fear to tell the unpleasant truth about French breeds and machines.

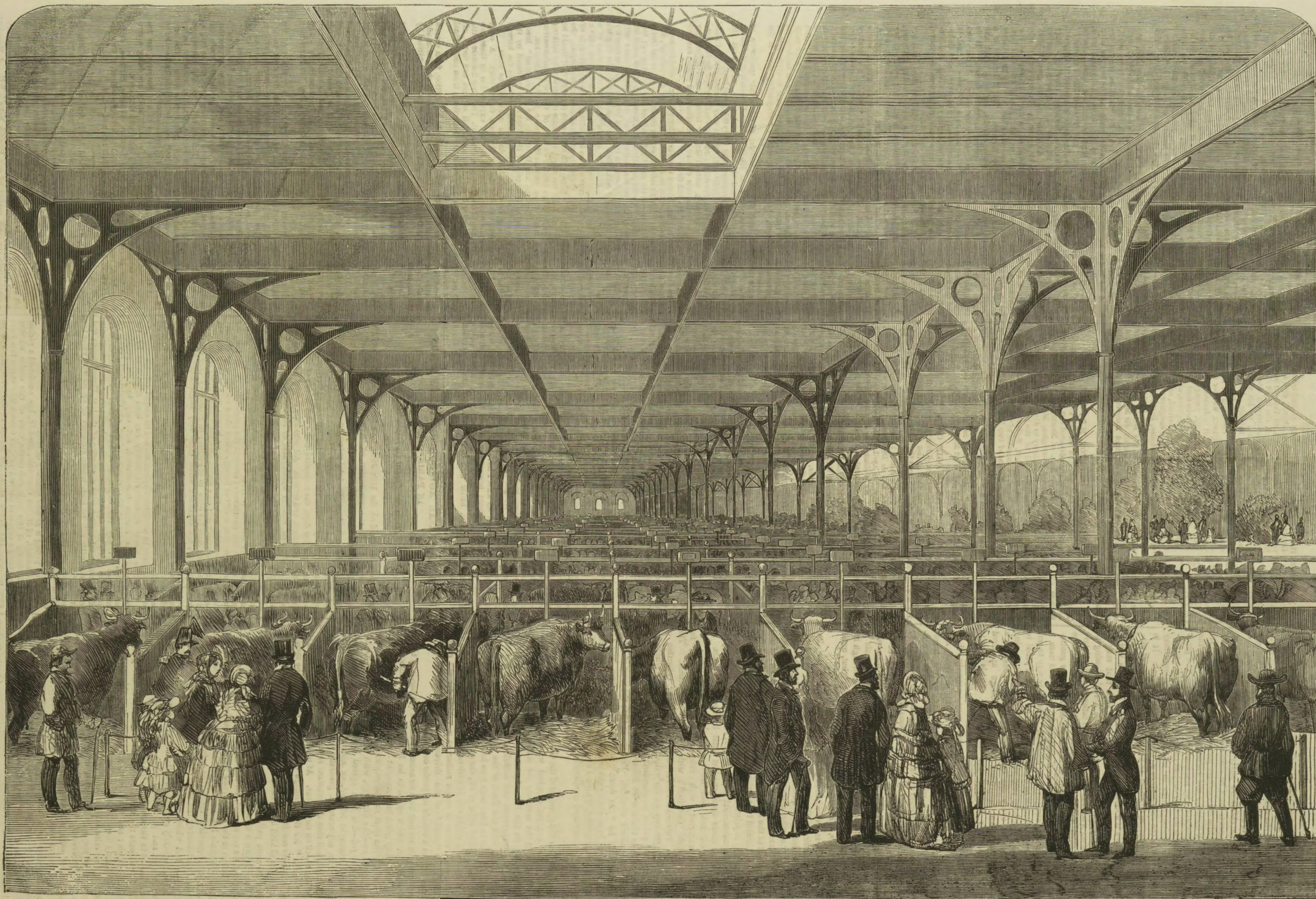
I shall say nothing about the machinery, because there the foreign exhibitors did not produce a single original or novel idea. A great proportion of the foreign implements were perfectly useless, so slightly made and badly fitted. As long as iron continues at protection price, and as long as doors and windows fit as they do in France, millwork and wheelwork will neither work nor last. There were French thrashing machines on the ground that no common power could move with corn to work. The very first step for improving foreign agriculture must be to abolish all duties on raw iron, and put revenue duties on iron manufactures.

At the present duties, reduced by the decree of the Emperor, our implement-makers in ploughs and simple implements are doing a considerable business with France, but still more with Germany.

On the Danube they must have English ploughs, harrows, drills, horse-hoes, reaping-machines, and steam thrashing-machines, if they intend to develop the full resources of their rich soil.—S. S.

The prize bull, "Grand Master," bred by H. Ambler, Esq., of Wilkenson-hall, Haliuax, has, we are informed, been purchased for 250 guineas by Charles H. Green, Esq., late Senior Gold Commissioner of New South Wales, for shipment to Sydney; and Mr. Fisher Hobbes's prize young Hereford bull has been purchased at a long figure for the colony of Victoria. The increasing population of our Australian colonies requires such an improvement in the breed of cattle as will enable the stockholder to bring his bullocks earlier to market; and we could not propose a more advisable course to meet the desired end than improving the colonial cattle by crossing with the most perfect of our English bulls. "Grand Master" is one of six pure-bred Durhams which Mr. Green takes out with him

(To be continued.)



THE PARIS AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.—THE CATTLE.—GENERAL VIEW.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE COUNTESS OF JERSEY
AS "NIGHT."

LADY CLEMENTINA VILLIERS, ATTENDANT
STAR OF "NIGHT."

THE DUCHESS OF MANCHESTER
AS "CYBELE."

THE DUCHESS OF WELLINGTON
AS THE "MOON."

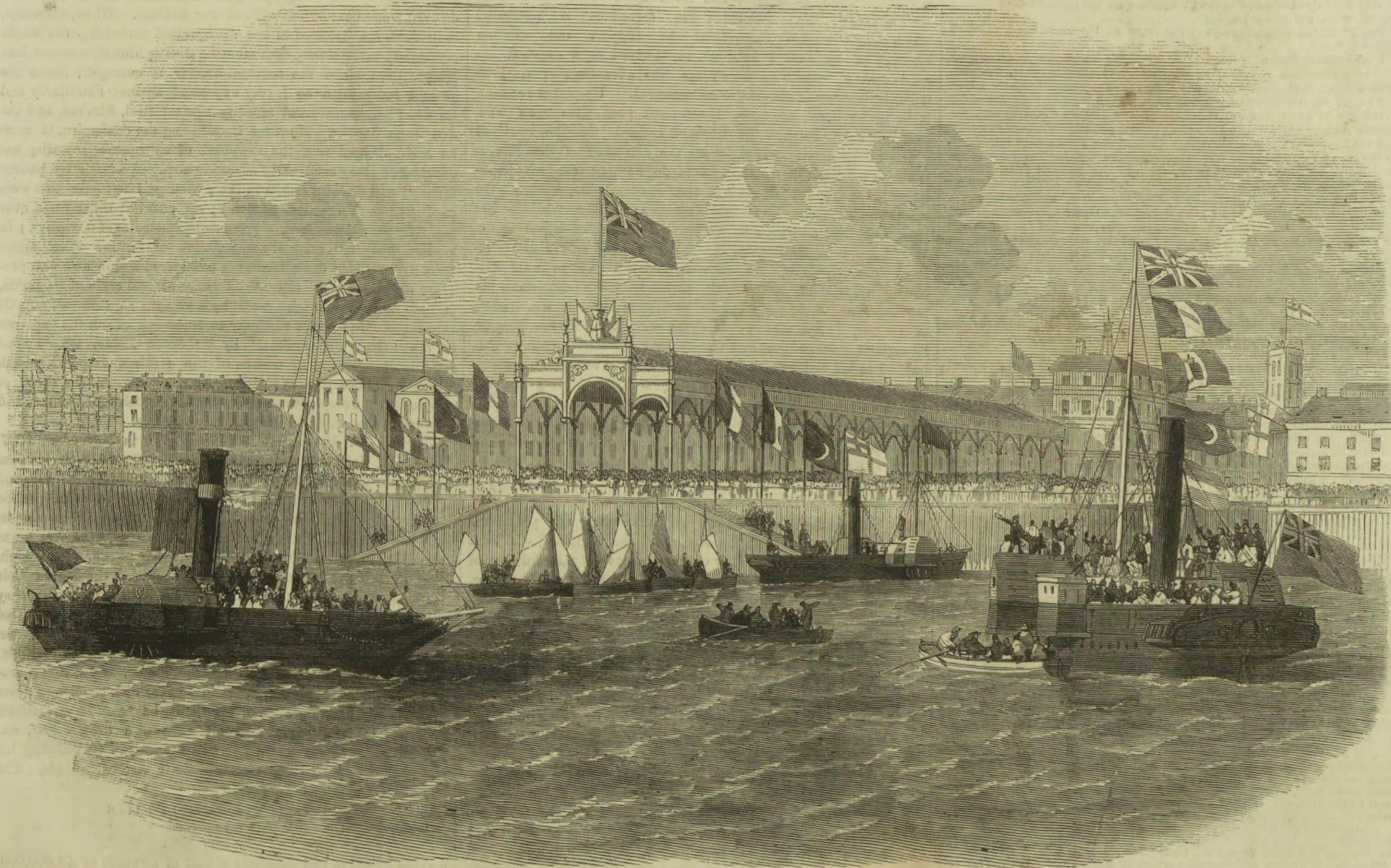
COSTUMES FROM THE FANCY-DRESS BALL IN AID OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

FANCY-DRESS BALL AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

We last week gave a Sketch of the Interior of the Hanover-square Rooms as they appeared on the occasion of the recent Fancy-Dress Ball in aid of the funds of the Royal Academy of Music, which, as our readers are

aware, was honoured with the presence of her Majesty the Queen and the whole Court. In the accompanying description allusion was made to the superb dresses worn by those members of the female aristocracy who took part in the fancy quadrilles. We engrave, from private drawings, three of the most remarkable costumes. One of the most exquisite personations in the ball-room was that of the Duchess

of Manchester, representing the queenly Cybele in a costume surpassing chasteness and beauty. The dress was of the finest white barège de cachmere, embroidered with gold in a Greek pattern running round the bottom of the skirt and at the top. Across the centre twined a wreath of myrtle leaves in gold embroidery. The waist was gathered in by a golden band engraved with lions, an emblem of Cybele; and the



RECEPTION OF THE KARS COMMANDERS, COLONEL LAKE AND CAPTAIN THOMPSON, AT HULL—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

sleeves were looped with six golden fibulae, from a Greek model. A crimson scarf was fastened on the left shoulder with a gold brooch, copied from the antique, and its rich deep colour was finely brought out by a broad band of gold embroidery, in that Greek pattern which is supposed to have been suggested by the waves of the sea. Her Grace wore on her head a crown of golden towers, and bore in her hand a golden sceptre and key, the emblems of Cybele. On the Queen descending from the royal box into the ball-room her Majesty recognised the Duchess, and with a gracious smile complimented her on her fine personification of the character.

The Duchess of Wellington attracted her Majesty's especial observation by the singular beauty of her dress, as representing the "Moon," in the Countess of Jersey's quadrille. Her Grace wore a petticoat of white silver tissue, covered with clouds of blue and white gauze, shaded off and looped up with blue and white marabouts, the dress itself being studded with diamond crescents. Around the waist was a belt of magnificent diamonds, formed from the order of the St. Esprit, by the late Duke, and presented to him by Louis XVIII. A *rivière* of large diamonds sparkled round the top of the corsage. On her head the Duchess wore a white gauze veil and marabouts; and on the centre of her forehead a diamond crescent. Fastened half-way down the dress was a blue belt, upon which were described the phases of the moon, reaching to the bottom of the dress on the other side. This charming costume realised the idea of light emerging from a fleecy cloud.

The Countess of Jersey, as the leader of her own quadrille of "Night and her Attendant Stars," wore a dress of dark blue over black, powdered with silver stars, and a veil of dark blue and silver. Her Ladyship had on her head a wreath of diamond stars. Foremost among her starry host shone her Ladyship's beautiful daughter, the Lady Clementina Villiers, wearing a light blue tulle dress, spangled with silver stars, and a large diamond star on her forehead. A blue veil, spotted with silver stars, floated from the back of the head, and completed a costume of the rarest elegance and beauty.

Among the other more remarkable dresses were those of the Lady Louisa Mills, representing Marie Leczinski, Queen of Louis XV., in a robe of white silver, with a deep point lace flounce attached to the dress by garlands of pink roses. The demi-train was of rich blue velvet, lined with pink satin, trimmed with a fontange of ribbon, and attached with bouquets of roses; and the body was trimmed with point lace, roses, and diamonds. Miss Weymes, as a Spanish lady, attracted especial observation. Her dress was of cerise-coloured satin, with Spanish lace flounces and black velvet and jet fringe, a mantilla and white rose in the hair forming the head-dress. The quadrille was of the style of the *Bergère de Watteau*.

To Madame Descon, of Bruton-street, is due the merit of the charming taste displayed in the manufacture of the Duchess of Manchester's costume; and to Madame Duval, of New Bond-street, the credit of having carried out to perfection the designs furnished by the Duchess of Wellington.

RECEPTION OF COLONEL LAKE AND CAPTAIN THOMPSON, AT HULL.

A VERY interesting demonstration of patriotic feeling took place at Hull, on the 7th inst., to welcome the return of Colonel Lake and Captain Thompson, two of the heroic defenders of the city of Kars. These two officers, since October last, had been prisoners in the hands of the Russians, having been removed from Armenia to St. Petersburg, on the surrender of the famished fortress to General Mouravieff. The reader will remember among the records of the siege the masterly engineering of Colonel Lake, who laid out and threw up those wonderful redoubts which presented, for seven hours and a half, an insurmountable obstacle to the Russian troops, and before which 4000 of them laid down their lives. Nor are the deeds of Captain Thompson, the hero of Karadagh, less worthy of remembrance by the coolness and bravery with which he conducted that signal attack.

The Corporation of Hull, therefore, well and wisely determined upon giving these two heroes a warm reception. A telegraphic message was received stating that the *Burlington* steamer had started from Copenhagen on Wednesday morning with the two officers on board, and that their arrival at Hull might be expected by eleven o'clock on Saturday. Accordingly, from an early hour, great excitement prevailed in the town. Vast crowds of people congregated on the piers; hundreds of flags and banners were suspended from the windows, but not until four o'clock was the signal gun fired announcing that the *Burlington* was in sight. In the course of a few minutes the bells of Holy Trinity were ringing out their welcome and intelligence to the town. Between four and five o'clock a cloud of smoke over the "Point" announced the approach of the anxiously-expected steamer, and in a few minutes she was seen off Paul, with her rigging gaily decked.

Two or three steamers crowded with passengers went out to meet the *Burlington*; and very shortly afterwards the Mayor, Anthony Bannister, Esq., and a select party, put off in a tug to greet the returning heroes. The *Burlington*, firing as she came along, slackened speed opposite the Victoria Dock, and waited the approach of the corporation packet and one containing Mr. Gee and friends, who, with the Mayor, were introduced to the two gallant gentlemen. The Mayor explained the arrangements which had been made by the Corporation. Colonel Lake and Captain Thompson expressed their acknowledgments at the splendour of the reception which awaited them.

Our Artist has sketched the stirring scene at the moment of the two heroes landing.

They speedily descended from the decks of the *Burlington*, and went on board the pilot-boat. As they approached the Corporation pier, two six-pounders threw out their blustering welcome, and simultaneously a loud and hearty burst of cheering went up from the ten thousand throats of the multitude. Having landed, it was with the utmost difficulty that the gallant soldiers made their way to the Victoria, preceded by a band of music. Colonel Lake and Captain Thompson (a Hull man) were then introduced to the crowd by the Mayor, at a window of the hotel. The two heroes were received with great enthusiasm, and, having addressed their thanks to the people, they withdrew to luncheon, of which also about eighty ladies and gentlemen partook. The Mayor presided, and proposed the health of the two heroes, who returned thanks. Other toasts were drunk, after which Col. Lake and Capt. Thompson were conveyed in a carriage and four to the North-Eastern Railway station, their progress through the streets being a scene of heartfelt enthusiasm and triumph.

We deeply regret to add that, within a few days of this gratifying welcome, one of its brave recipients has been numbered with the dead. Captain Thompson in addressing the company at Hull, on the 4th inst., complained that he was suffering from an illness which made it difficult for him to speak—meaning thereby a severe cold: on the 13th inst. he died suddenly, at the residence of his family, in Gloucester-street, Belgrave-road.

Captain Thompson was the son of a gentleman holding a Government appointment in one of the northern counties. He was educated at Eton, and entered the military profession, in which he became so distinguished, in 1845. He served in India as a Lieutenant in the 68th Bengal Native Infantry, and returned to England, after ten years' absence, in the autumn of 1854. He volunteered soon after to join the Eastern campaign. His name is inseparably linked to those of Williams, Lake, and the small knot of heroes who upheld in Asia Minor the lustre of the British arms. Captain Thompson had recently conferred on him the honour of the Companionship of the Bath, in common with his gallant comrades. This lamented young officer had only reached his twenty-seventh year.

ARRIVAL OF GENERAL WILLIAMS, K.C.B.

The hero of Kars, General Sir William Fenwick Williams, K.C.B., landed at Dover on Monday last, and was received by the Mayor, the authorities of the town, and the resident and neighbouring gentry in the most enthusiastic manner. On his arrival at the Ship Hotel an address from the corporation was presented to the gallant General.

In his reply General Williams, after some feeling remarks on the fate of his brave comrade, Captain Thompson, said the mother of that officer would have the consolation which has been the only consolation experienced by many mothers during the present war—they have given their sons to the service of their country! (Hear, hear.) "And if the day comes," said the gallant General, "when the repetition of this sacrifice shall be necessary, I believe there will be thousands who will give up their offspring as readily as the mothers who are now weeping for the loss of theirs; for woe to the nation that forgets the military art! Woe to that nation—woe to that nation who heaps up riches, but who does not take the precaution to defend them (Hear). I have passed through armed Europe, and I take this, the earliest opportunity of uttering a warning to those who forget the military art."

At the conclusion of the speech the usual etiquette observed on such occasions was thrown aside, and, notwithstanding the presence of the ladies, a hearty cheer resounded through the apartment.

General Williams afterwards partook of a *déjeuner*, provided at the Ship Hotel, and left for London by the two o'clock train.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, June 22.—5th Sunday after Trinity.
MONDAY, 23.—Leibnitz born, 1646. Akenside died, 1770.
TUESDAY, 24.—John Hampden died, 1643.
WEDNESDAY, 25.—Battle of Bannockburn, 1324.
THURSDAY, 26.—London Docks commenced, 1802.
FRIDAY, 27.—Allan Cunningham died, 1840.
SATURDAY, 28.—Queen Victoria crowned, 1838.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 28, 1856.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
4 30	4 55	5 15	5 40	6 0	6 25	6 45

LIST OF ENGRAVINGS IN THIS WEEK'S "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

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*** Next week we shall illustrate the Display of the Great Fountains before her Majesty the Queen at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday last. In the same Number will appear Engravings of the magnificent Baptismal Fêtes at Paris; the Inundations in the South of France; and the Paris Agricultural Exhibition.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1856.

If there be any recent enactment which was well considered before it received the sanction of the Legislature, and which ample experience has proved to be in a very high degree beneficial to the country for which it was intended, it is the Act to which we owe the National System of Education in Ireland. That such a system should be overthrown by the deliberate sanction of the House of Commons would be a misfortune to Ireland and the whole empire, and a disgrace to the House; but that it should be overthrown by a chance majority—stolen over the Government when no one except the wily tactician who had charge of the measure expected such a result—would be, indeed, a scandal. The majority of ten, obtained by Mr. Walpole in his fair-seeming but insidious motion for undoing all the educational work of the last few years in Ireland, and for letting loose again in that unfortunate country the waters of theological bitterness,—waters which would speedily subside if the House of Commons would let Ireland alone,—does not represent the feeling either of the Legislature or of the country. It is, therefore, necessary that the House should take an early opportunity of repudiating the ill-timed vote; and we are glad to see that the Government, which has too great a penchant for playing fast and loose with high principles, and for allowing troublesome factions and pertinacious pedants to snatch barren victories, has determined that upon this question at least there shall be no mistake. Lord Palmerston has fixed upon Monday evening for allowing Mr. Fortescue to introduce a resolution which shall pledge the House to support the existing system of national education in Ireland—a system so good that it would be much for the advantage of England if Parliament would give it one as beneficial. Upon this occasion it is to be hoped that the House will pronounce itself with sufficient vigour to show the people of Ireland that the continual efforts of those who either ignore the existence of the Roman Catholic population, or who would do nothing for that population but coerce it or insult it in matters of religion, have not the sympathy or support of the Legislature. Mr. Walpole has been in office, and aspires, we believe, to be in office again. Would he, as a Minister of State, deliberately advise his Sovereign to overthrow the existing system of national education in Ireland? We think not. If he would, there are few men of any political note, and certainly not the leaders of his own party, who would agree with him. What purpose he expects to serve by such a victory over the Government as that implied in his majority of Tuesday we are at a loss to understand. Such victories do worse than stultify a political party and the House of Commons. They tend to unsettle the minds of the Irish people, and to cause discontent and jealousy, if not disaffection, at a time when Ireland only requires the cessation of party strife and religious rancour to become as loyal and as prosperous as any other part of the empire.

Amid the cloud and storm that, notwithstanding the premature peace which resulted from the capture of the *Malakoff*, still loom portentously over Europe, it is encouraging to see the cordiality of feeling that exists between the British and the French people. Governments which, like other corporations, "have neither souls to be saved, nor bodies to be kicked," may do base or shabby things without compunction, and allow other principles than those of generosity and virtue to direct their conduct; but the great bulk of the people in all countries feel nobly, though they are not always allowed to act so. The alliances that are formed by Governments for selfish purposes are of necessity ephemeral; and even if they be formed in the purest of causes, and for the most beneficent of objects, they lack one great element of stability, by their dependence upon the interest, the caprice, or the life of an individual. Did the alliance between England and France rest merely upon the will of Lord Palmerston—upon the chances of a Parliamentary majority—upon the valuable life of Napoleon III.—or upon the combination of these three things—there would be some, but not a very great, security for its long continuance. But when

it rests upon the mutual good feeling of two great and highly-civilised nations—upon the remembrance of hardships and perils endured in common by their fleets and armies—upon a kindly sympathy displayed in distress and sorrow—and upon gratitude for spontaneous generosity exhibited in succouring the victims of an unparalleled public calamity—we may well believe that the alliance rests upon surer and more stable foundation than those of temporary policy, and that it will long outlast the individuals or the Governments which at present lend it their support. The subscription commenced in the city of London for the relief of the sufferers by the terrible inundations of the Rhone and the Saone is an earnest of the real friendship now subsisting between France and England; and the Queen of Great Britain and her illustrious Consort, in heading the subscription with the truly regal sums that stand opposite to their names in the list, have not only done a graceful and a liberal act, but have added a link to the chain of international good will. We have no wish to swell the chorus of adulation that roars round the throne of the French Emperor; but we cannot refrain from re-echoing the sentiment so generally expressed in France—that he never showed himself more truly a great and wise Sovereign than when he visited the inundated districts, and cheered the suffering people by his presence no less than by his bounty. There is at present a lull in the hurricane of war. It is possible that for some months, if not for years, the coalition of despotic States against the liberty of Germany and Italy may succeed in maintaining a forced tranquillity in Europe; but it is obvious to those Sovereigns, and to Napoleon III., whom we do not rank among the number, that the time has not yet come for any sensible diminution of their great armies, and that they must keep their legions upon something like a war footing, if they would be prepared for the contingencies of the future, and be ready for the inevitable struggle. The French Emperor may, in the meantime, turn his noble army to a far nobler purpose than that of war. The fairest and most fertile district of France is periodically subject to inundation. Surely it is within the compass of the means of France, so rich and so industrious, to embank those troublesome rivers the Rhone and Saone? If the frugal and industrious Hollander have so banked out the waters as to preserve a whole kingdom from the ravages of the sea, the no less frugal and industrious French may set some bounds to the ravages of its Alpine streams. A hundred thousand soldiers would execute this great work at a cheaper rate than could be attained by any other agency; and by employing them in this manner, and rescuing Burgundy and La Beauce from the desolating affliction of periodical inundation, the Emperor would gain a new title to that designation of "Great" which his admirers endeavour to thrust upon him, and which there is reason to believe he will—if his life be spared—deserve from his contemporaries and posterity. The man who built a Sebastopol to overcome and coerce his unoffending neighbour was called a great King in his day. How much greater will the Sovereign be who shall build such a work as that which is required in the midland districts of France, to save them from the flood, and from the famine which but too often accompanies it? In the meantime, and to lighten the load of a present calamity, the hearts of the British people will be with him in all the measures that he may take.

It is no vainglorious boast that London is the commercial centre of the world, and it may be asserted with honest pride that the character of the British merchant is respected in every foreign mart of trade. Fidelity to engagements has earned for our country these enviable distinctions; and we are as much indebted to mercantile probity and integrity for our colossal wealth as to our industrial resources and the skill of our artisans. When, therefore, individuals are detected in acts of organised swindling the whole community takes alarm, each member feeling himself more or less compromised where the national honour is outraged; hence the general indignation so loudly expressed against Fautleroy and Rowland Stephenson, and recently against Paul, Strahan, and Co. and John Sadleir. However humiliating the confession, it must be acknowledged that the standard of mercantile morality has declined of late years. Our ancestors acquired wealth by patient industry and prudent habits in life; their private households were conducted with a modest economy; no outward display was ever made for the gratification of pride or the purposes of deception; in modern times the gradual accumulation of fortune which arises from living within one's income is considered a slow and dull process; the trader is too eager to affect the air and style of Belgravia, and too often wins a false credit by a sumptuous ostentation. Of this eagerness to arrive suddenly at enormous wealth the exposure of the "Great City Frauds," by Mr. Seton Laing, affords most lamentable evidence, as well as of the reckless desperation with which the golden prize is sought to be clutched. A brief sketch of the career of Joseph Windle Cole will astonish the prudent, and may prove a warning to the rashly speculative.

The firm of Johnson, Cole, and Co. failed in November, 1847. Their total liabilities amounted to £153,000, and their nominal assets were stated at £71,800. It was at first intended to wind up their affairs under inspection; but, the deed of inspection breaking through, they were subsequently adjudged bankrupts, and, according to "Evans's Commercial Crisis," the estate was expected to realise about fourpence in the pound. In March, 1848, Cole began the world again, establishing the firm of Cole Brothers; but the brothers appear to have been myths, or, if they had any real existence, they were merely clerks. Cole admitted when examined in the Bankruptcy Court, that he had no partner, and commenced business without capital except loans from friends; but the amount of those loans were not stated, and it seems probable that they had no existence. He never took stock, and never exactly ascertained the state of his affairs, but acted on an estimate formed in his own mind. These are his own declarations, expressed almost verbatim in his own language. Considering his position, his operations were marvellous in their magnitude. The amount of his transactions

In 1852	was	£1,531,708 14 6
" 1853	"	2,000,744 0 4
" 1854	"	770,750 18 6

making a total in two years and a half of upwards of £4,300,000.

As a set-off to this enormous sum the official assignee only received £7000; and the uncovered debt due to Messrs. Overend, Gurney, and Co., the great bill-brokers in Lombard-street, figured for about £120,000. According to the report of Messrs. Quilter, Ball, and Co., the eminent accountants, Messrs. Overend, Gurney, and Co. at one time held securities deposited with them by Cole to the amount of £323,230 11s. 11d., of which only £54,138 11s. 11d. were genuine. Cole Brothers were in collusion during their most nefarious career with the firm of Davidson and Gordon, and it is ascertained that the nominal amount of spurious warrants on which those swindlers raised money reached the enormous sum of £518,600, of which Cole Brothers fabricated £367,800, and Davidson and Gordon £150,800.

There were many other minor agents in this deeply-laid scheme of villany who aided and abetted in the frauds. They need not here be mentioned; but the cunning with which the scene of operations was selected deserves a special notice. Cole took a wharf, called Hagen's Sufferance-wharf, in Mill-street, Bermondsey, in which he placed a person named Maltby; and Maltby, though Cole's servant, appeared to be the occupying wharfinger on his own account. On one side of this wharf was the Platform-wharf, belonging to Messrs. Groves and Son. When suspicion first arose as to the genuineness of the tin and spelter warrants, and parties went to satisfy themselves that the goods were really in existence, "Maltby," says Mr. Seton Laing, "did not hesitate to this request (of ocular demonstration), but at once conducted Mr. Goodburn and Wilkins into a large warehouse running up one side of the wharf and adjoining his counting-house. He there showed them a pile of goods, and said, 'That is the pile from which the spelter will be delivered.' The warehouse belonged to Groves and Son, as well as the spelter; and it certainly is remarkable that Messrs. Laing and Campbell, whose suspicions had been excited, did not at once detect that most important fact. However, the result was that eighteen of the warrants held by them, and which had been handed to them by Cole as tangible securities, amounting in nominal marketable value to £18,000, were spurious and worthless.

Davidson and Gordon were general merchants, but also carried on a large distillery at West Ham-lane, in the county of Essex, about four miles from their counting-house in Mincing-lane. Their involvements, when they failed and fled the country, amounted to nearly £500,000, besides a large amount of duty which they owed to the Excise.

Out of the great City frauds arises a question of really national importance, frequently discussed by earnest and advanced reformers, but which unfortunately has not yet taken any firm hold on public opinion: that question involves the appointment of a public prosecutor, who would really become the conservator of mercantile morality. The prosecution of Cole costs Messrs. Laing and Campbell, the victims of some of his swindling transactions, £800 in legal expenses: surely it is unjust that a private firm, in the honest endeavour to bring a gang of swindlers to punishment, should have to pay such a sum. It is also to be considered that few persons would undertake so costly an exposure, and hence the criminal has many chances of escape, which encourage him to embark in the lottery of fraud; moreover, many not so conscientious as Mr. Laing, who was offered £1500 by Cole's attorney to desist, but which that gentleman to his honour refused, might be tempted to compromise such affairs, and withhold evidence by which justice would be defeated. Against these contingent evils the appointment of a public prosecutor is the only safe guarantee. The London bankers, and some other trading associations, retain an attorney specially nominated to act in all cases where they are wronged, and the tendency of the system is to make the reckless speculator pause. The existence of a national functionary, invested with analogous powers, would check the fraudulent dealer in his operations; and, while in numerous instances it would deter from crime, it would ensure correction whenever crime was perpetrated.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—OPENING OF THE GREAT FOUNTAINS.

The Great Fountains of the Crystal Palace Gardens were opened on Wednesday—the event of the spectacle constituting a splendid fête, unique of its kind, and extraordinarily beautiful. The Queen and her illustrious guests were present, and more than twenty thousand of her Majesty's subjects shared the pleasure of the day. The Palace was opened at twelve o'clock, and train after train arrived from town with crowds of visitors. The day was very fine, the ladies were dressed in summer costume, and each new group as it arrived added new and brilliant ornaments to the moving picture. Even at one o'clock the grounds contained as many persons as are to be seen on the ordinary days. After this time the number rapidly augmented, and up to five o'clock the arrivals by the train and the road were continuous.

Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, the Regent of Baden, Prince Frederick William of Prussia, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, with the Duchess of Atholl, Lady Caroline Barrington, Lord Rivers, Lieutenant-General Baron Schrekenstein, Colonel Baron Sauter, Lord Charles Fitzroy, and Captain the Hon. D. De Ros, left Buckingham Palace at twenty minutes past four o'clock in four open carriages and four, escorted by a detachment of the 3rd Light Dragoons, and arrived at the Palace precisely at five o'clock.

The Royal party rode slowly round the grounds, attended by Sir Joseph Paxton, on horseback, who pointed out to them from time to time the most favourable points for witnessing the display. The bands of the Coldstream Guards, the Royal Artillery, and the Company, which were in attendance and stationed at different parts of the gardens, played the National Anthem as her Majesty entered; and throughout her progress, in making the circuit of the basins, she was greeted with one continued ovation. A few minutes after five, when the Royal cortège had reached a position commanding the most advantageous view of the spectacle, the whole system of waterworks, including, besides the fountains on the terraces, the water-temple, the cascades, the two large waterfalls, and the fountains of the grand lower basins, were brought gradually into operation. The richest visions of the Arabian Nights and Persian fables seemed more than realised as one gazed on the gorgeous scene. The fountains continued playing for forty-five minutes, during which time nearly 6,000,000 gallons of water had passed through the jets.

Her Majesty left the grounds soon after six, when the fountains ceased playing.

The nomination of Sheriffs for the City will take place at the Guild-hall on the 24th inst., at twelve o'clock. The only candidates are Mr. J. J. Michi, the governor of the Unity Bank, and Mr. Alderman Eagleton.

Mr. J. A. Roebuck, M.P., the newly-appointed Chairman of the Administrative Reform Association, is to preside at a public meeting of that body, which is to be held to-day (Saturday), at the London Tavern.

LEICESTER ELECTION.—The nomination took place on Wednesday morning, when, after the usual formalities, Mr. John Biggs, the late Mayor, was proposed as a fit and proper person to represent the borough in Parliament. No other candidate was proposed, and the Mayor declared Mr. Biggs duly elected. Mr. Biggs, who was loudly cheered, then addressed his constituents, and the whole proceedings were concluded in an hour and a half.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE UNITED LAW-CLERKS' SOCIETY.—The twenty-fourth anniversary dinner of this excellent association was held on Tuesday last, at the Freemasons' Tavern, when Mr. Roundell Palmer, Q.C. and M.P., took the chair, supported by many of the most distinguished members of the profession. The subscriptions raised on this occasion amounted to £300. This institution allows one guinea a week to each of its members when sick, and has also a superannuation fund for the benefit of those who are permanently disabled from attending to business. The third and last branch of expenditure consists of an allowance of £50 made to the family of a member on his decease, and of half that sum on the death of a member's wife, should he survive her. At the last anniversary there were only 570 members, but the report of the present year announces a considerable increase, the contributions during the year being £1322. At present, however, the general fund falls short of £20,000, at which we may be permitted to express both astonishment and regret, considering the numbers of the profession, and the opulence it enjoys. During the last year the receipts for the general fund only reached the sum of £2319, while the expenditure for relief in sickness, superannuation, and death absorbed £1010, leaving a balance of £1309, which has been duly invested. The sums disbursed from the casual fund, and as loans, amounted to £351. While it is gratifying to hear that this association is progressing, it must be confessed that the advance is slow and inadequate; and we quite concur in the remarks of the Right Hon. the Lord Justice Turner, who presided at the anniversary of 1855, when he said, "Now, if you have 570 members, looking at the number of solicitors in London, looking at the number of barristers, and looking at the number of clerks, why, surely the number of 570 is short by thousands of the number who ought to belong to this society. Every man placed in the position of discharging his duty to his wife and family is, in my humble judgment, bound to join this society." When institutions of this kind are first formed, the drain on them is trifling; but, as the members grow old, the superannuations rapidly increase; and, as this society has existed during twenty-four years, the interest on its invested capital, which ought to accumulate from year to year, may be trenced upon, unless additional members are largely secured. The profession, by one united and generous effort, could double its present capital in twelve months, and that without any appreciable pressure on individuals. Let the country be canvassed as well as the metropolis, and this result would be readily accomplished.

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER BY A SURGEON.—At Bow-street Police Court, on Monday, Dr. Charles Snape, late superintendent at the Surrey Lunatic Asylum, appeared before Mr. Henry, to answer a charge of having killed Daniel Dolly, an inmate of the asylum, on the 9th of April last. On the morning in question the man Dolly, who was about sixty-five years of age, was in a state of excitement and very troublesome, and Dr. Snape was about to order him a cold bath, when the man, who probably remembered having been subjected to the same treatment on a former occasion, went behind Dr. Snape, as he was opening the bathroom door, and struck him. The man was then seized upon by the attendants, and compelled to enter the bath. Dr. Snape then observed, "I never before was struck by a patient," and ordered the man to be kept in the bath for half an hour. He was kept in the bath for twenty-eight minutes, and in about fifteen or sixteen minutes after, as near as could be calculated, he was dead. The bath was a closed box, having no aperture for the admission of air, and the door was fastened on the outside with an iron bar, so that whatever illness he might have had, it was not in his power to get out. It had been calculated that the water ran in a continuous stream, at the rate of four gallons a minute, the orifices being unusually large, and that in the course of the time the deceased was within there must have descended upon him nearly 600 gallons of water. It was part of this system of employing the shower-bath, to allay excitement, to give the patient after the bath a dose of tartar emetic, which was kept for that purpose in a cupboard, to which the attendants had access; and it would appear that Dr. Snape, in ordering the deceased to be kept in the bath for half an hour, also added, "to give him a good dose of the light-coloured mixture," in obedience to which order the attendant gave him four spoonfuls instead of the usual dose, which was three. It appeared from the evidence that on being brought out of the bath, the deceased was shivering, and immediately he became ill and had a fit. The attendants ran for the doctor, but before he arrived the patient had died. After the examination of several of the attendants, who denied that the bath had been given as a punishment, the case was remanded for further evidence.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY.—The second exhibition took place on Wednesday in the Regent's-park, and was attended by many persons of rank, including the Countess de Neuilly, the Duke and Duchess de Nemours, Prince and Princess de Joinville, the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, the Marchioness of Clanricarde; Earls Waldegrave, Ellesmere, Craven, and Fortescue; Countesses Waldegrave, Craven, Essex, &c. The stove and greenhouse plants were in fine condition, especially the pelargoniums; the fuchsias and orchids were much admired.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACT.—On Monday evening a public meeting of the ratepayers of St. Pancras was held in the Vestry-hall, King's-road, Camden-town, to take into consideration the propriety of introducing the Public Libraries Act into the parish. Mr. Churchwarden Streeten took the chair. Mr. Kenny proposed a motion in favour of the adoption of the act, which was met by an amendment by Mr. Ross, that it would not be advisable to augment the, at present, too heavy rates. On a division there was a large majority against the introduction of the act into the parish.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week that ended on Saturday last the total number of deaths registered was 1027. In the corresponding weeks of ten years 1846-55 the average number was 930, which, for the sake of comparison, should be raised according to increase of population, and in this case will become 1023. The actual number agrees closely with the result obtained by calculation; and it may be affirmed (says the Registrar-General) that the health of London, if not better, is also not worse than might be expected at this healthy season of the year. Last week the births of 823 boys and 749 girls, in all 1572 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55 the average number was 1,372.

THE BAPTISM OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE.

The baptism of the Imperial Prince was celebrated on Saturday last, at half-past five o'clock p.m., in the Church of Notre Dame. A salute of artillery, fired at six o'clock in the morning, announced that this was the day fixed for the ceremony; and at two o'clock all the avenues leading to the cathedral were occupied by the Imperial Guard, under the command of General Regnaud de St. Jean d'Angely. The Master of the Ceremonies also arrived at an early hour to superintend the execution of the programme and the placing of the persons invited, who began to enter the church at half-past two.

At half-past four o'clock the Cardinal Legate left the Tuileries for Notre Dame, with a cortège composed of three Court carriages, following the same line of march as the Imperial cortège. Two squadrons of the 12th Regiment of Chasseurs, with the Colonel and band, opened the march; next came a carriage, drawn by six horses, containing three persons of the Legate's suite and the Prefect of the Palace of the Emperor; a second carriage, also with six horses, three other persons of the Legate's suite, and a Chamberlain of the Emperor, two Imperial outriders; and the third carriage, drawn by eight horses, in which was seated the Cardinal Legate, an Equerry of the Emperor riding on the right, and on the left, a captain of Dragoons of the escort. Two squadrons of the 11th Regiment of Dragoons, commanded by a chief of squadron, closed the march. On his arrival at Notre Dame the Cardinal was received by the Archbishop of Paris at the head of the chapter, and conducted to his throne.

Their Majesties, on arriving, alighted at the great gate of Notre Dame, and were received at the entrance of the church by the Archbishop of Paris, the assistant Bishop, and the honorary members of the Metropolitan Chapter. After having paid their devotions at the high altar, they were conducted to the *prie-dieu* beneath a canopy borne by canons. The wax taper for the ceremony was borne by the Countess Montebello, Lady of the Palace; the chrism-cloth by the Baroness Montaut, Lady of the Palace; the salt, by the Marchioness de la Tour-Maubourg; the ewer, by the Countess de Laedoyère; the water-basin, by the Countess de Rayneval; the napkin, by Madame de Sauly.

Immediately preceding the Imperial Prince came the Grand Duchess Stephanie of Baden, representing the godmother (the Queen of Sweden), and his Royal Highness Prince Oscar of Sweden and Norway. Then came the Imperial Prince, carried in the arms of the governess of the children of France, and wearing a rich mantle lined with ermine; to his right and left were the under-governesses and the nurse; the Emperor and the Empress under a canopy. The Empress's train was borne by her Equerries. Behind the canopy were the Princes and Princesses of the Imperial family, the Princes and Princesses of the Emperor's family holding rank at the Court. On reaching the *prie-dieu* the whole of the cortège preceding their Majesties drew up in two lines to the right and left. The Princes and Princesses stood to the right and left of the *prie-dieu* above mentioned. To the right of the Emperor the Imperial Prince was held in the arms of the governess, and to the rear were the sub-governesses and nurse.

The clergy, who met their Majesties at the entrance, resumed their

places respectively in the order already mentioned. The Cardinal Legate descended from his throne, stood before the altar, and chanted the "Veni Creator," which was executed by a full orchestra. During the performance of the "Veni Creator" the ladies bearing the chrism, &c., preceded by a master and assistant of ceremonies, advanced towards the *prie-dieu*, made obeisance to their Majesties, and proceeded to deposit the chrism, ewer, napkin, &c., on the credence-tables near the altar. At the conclusion of the "Veni Creator," the master and assistant of ceremonies bowed before the altar, and then to their Majesties, and advanced towards the Cardinal Legate, who went to the entrance of the sanctuary, and there performed the rite of the Catechumens. The Cardinal Legate then conducted the infant to the font, and all the persons to the right and left of their Majesties and the Imperial Prince, and behind them, advanced in the same order as above mentioned, ascended the estrade, and occupied thereon and along the steps the same places they held near the *prie-dieu*, with the exception of the Marshals, who occupied places reserved for them on the estrade.

Their Majesties then seated themselves on the throne; the Grand Mistress and the ladies of the Empress and of the Princesses sat on benches, and the officers not on duty stood in the nave behind the estrade. The Grand Duchess of Baden, as representative of the godmother, stood at the font. The Cardinal Legate then completed the ceremony of baptism according to the religious ceremonial, the Imperial infant having been previously *ondoyé*, or having received the baptismal water. This ceremony being concluded, the Grand Master of the Ceremonies made his obeisance to their Majesties and the Imperial Prince. The governess placed the Prince in the arms of the Empress, while an assistant master of ceremonies advanced to the middle of the choir, and cried aloud three times, "Vive le Prince Impérial!" the Empress standing all the time, and holding the Prince up in her arms. The *vivat* was executed by a full orchestra. Then the governess received the infant from the hands of the Empress, and made an obeisance to her Majesty. The Imperial infant, borne by his governess, with the sub-governesses and nurse to the right and left, preceded by an assistant and a master of ceremonies, an Equerry of the Emperor, the Prefect of the Palace on duty, and four Chamberlains of the Emperor, and followed by an aide-de-camp and an orderly officer of the Emperor, was conducted to the chamber prepared for him in the chapel of the choir. He was taken thence to the sanctuary, and lastly to the Palace of the Tuileries, with his cortège, consisting of three Court carriages, preceded by a squadron of Guides, and followed by a squadron of Cuirassiers of the Guard.

When the Imperial infant left, the Cardinal Legate chanted the "Te Deum," which was executed by the orchestra, as well as the "Domine Salvum." During the "Te Deum," the Archbishop of Paris, accompanied by the Curé of St. Germain l'Auxerrois (the parish of the Tuileries), presented for the signature of their Majesties the register containing the entry of baptism. The representatives of the sponsors and the other persons indicated by the Emperor also affixed their signatures. The Pontifical benediction terminated this ceremony; it was bestowed in the most solemn manner by the Cardinal Legate, the Emperor and Empress kneeling at the *prie-dieu*.

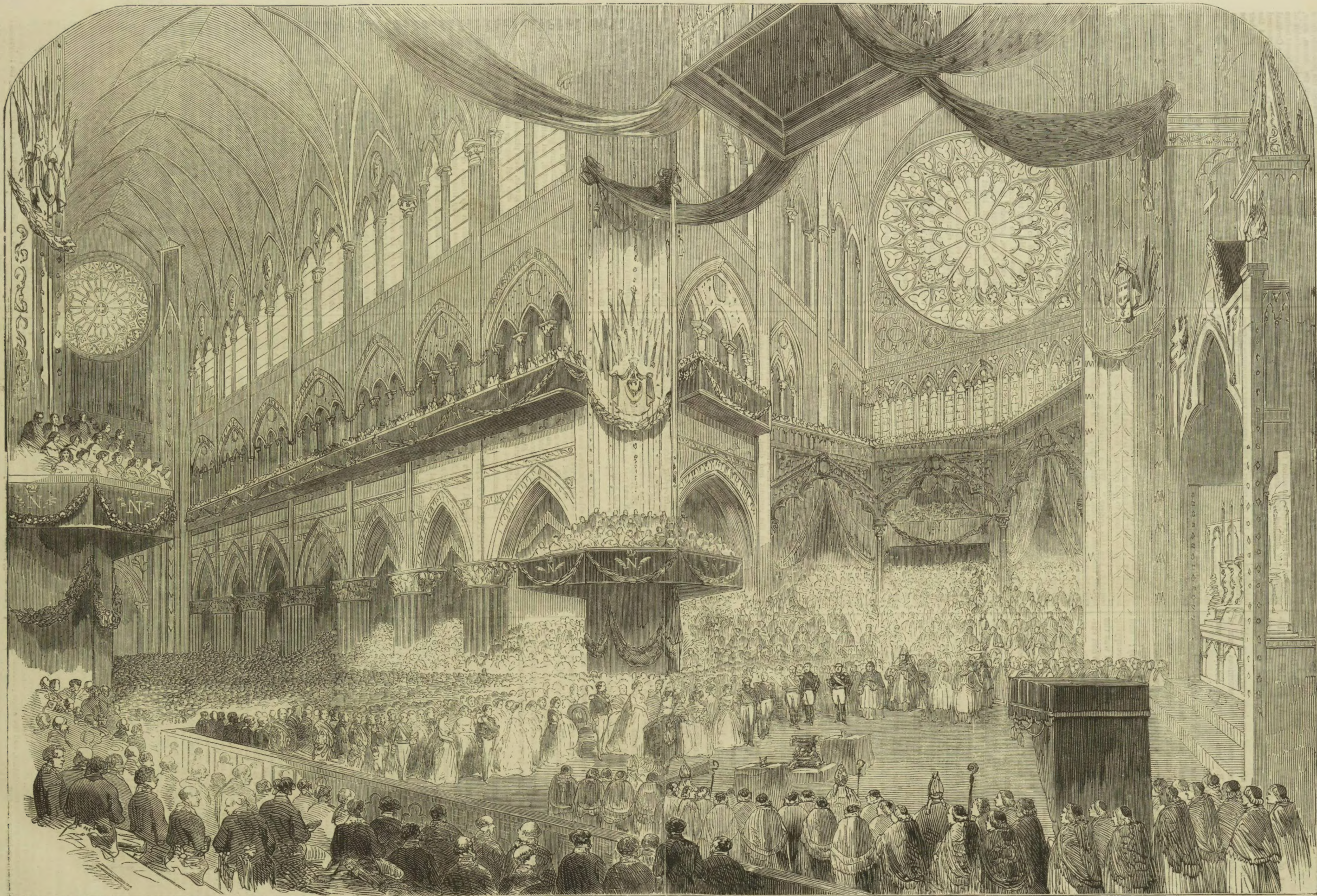
There were nearly eighty prelates, including cardinals, at the ceremony, among whom three Irish Roman Catholic Bishops on their way from Rome.

Immense crowds thronged the way leading to the church, and the windows and balconies of the Rue de Rivoli and of the approach to Notre Dame were filled with spectators. The Grand Hôtel de Louvre and all the houses along the streets were decked out with flags and streamers.

The banquet took place in the Galerie des Fêtes, the whole of which was occupied with tables laid out in the most gorgeous style. That occupied by the Imperial party was placed exactly in the centre, at the part leading from the Salle de Caryatides. At that spot was a square table of immense size, extending from one side of the gallery to the other, with only sufficient space left for the passage of the attendants. At eight o'clock four of the Cent Gardes, in full uniform, entered and took up their places, two behind the Emperor's chair, and two facing them at the opposite side. There they stood like statues until the end of the dinner. A short time after they had taken their stations the Emperor and Empress entered the banquet-hall, followed by the favoured guests who had been invited to their table. Everything at the Imperial table was served to the guests on silver, and the dessert on a splendid new service of silver gilt. The other tables were occupied simultaneously with the Imperial one, and, although 300 persons partook of this banquet, not the slightest confusion prevailed, as every one's place was marked beforehand. At all the tables except that of the Imperial party a gentleman and lady sat alternately; and as all the gentlemen were in uniform or in full official costume, and the ladies wore a profusion of diamonds, the coup-d'œil was magnificent. During the dinner the Emperor and Empress conversed frequently with the high personages near them; the Empress, it was remarked, addressing the Legate in a very animated manner. At the conclusion of the repast, their Majesties went into the Salle des Caryatides, where they walked about for some time, conversing with the distinguished guests who flocked in from the gallery. The Imperial party then withdrew to a salon prepared for their reception, took coffee, and in about half an hour after entered the Salle du Trône, where chairs of state had been placed for their Majesties.

The fête of Sunday was ushered in by the honours of a salute from the guns of the Invalides. From an early hour crowds were on the move towards the Champs Elysées, the Esplanade des Invalides, and the Barrière du Trône, which were the three great points of attraction. On the last two platforms were erected, and military pantomimes and humorous pieces of buffoonery were enacted, which brought together a great number of spectators, evidently delighted with what was going on. Four poles, made slippery with grease, were planted with fair gifts for prizes at the summit, for those who had courage and perseverance enough to reach it, and a considerable number of competitors made the trial. Their failures appeared far more pleasing to the crowd than their success. But what afforded most amusement to the public was the sending up of balloons carrying bonbons for them to scramble for. Three hundred of these were let off in the Esplanade in the course of the afternoon, and at about five a large balloon was sent up, from which bags of bonbons were thrown down among the crowd. Everything passed over with great good humour, and the crowd seemed much pleased with the amusements, favoured as they were by the fineness of the weather. The proceedings at the Barrière du Trône were somewhat similar, excepting that there was no balloon ascent. At all the theatres gratuitous performances were given, each house performing its best and newest pieces. Immense audiences were everywhere to be seen, and, as is usual with the French public when admitted without payment, the greatest attention was paid to the performance. Towards the evening the crowd seemed to divide into two vast streams, one proceeding to the Place de la Concorde, the other to the Barrière du Trône, where two splendid *feux d'artifice* were to be displayed simultaneously. An immense assemblage of people took possession, at an early hour of the evening, of the terrace of the garden of the Tuileries, and of every available spot on the Place de la Concorde which commanded a view of the illuminations. The whole attraction of the latter, as far as the western end of Paris is concerned, was concentrated in this neighbourhood; and the remaining quarters of the town, notwithstanding the general and brilliant nature of their illuminations, remained comparatively deserted. The view offered from the Place de la Concorde was magnificent in the extreme. A brilliant garland of fire extended from the gardens of the Tuileries to the Arch of Triumph, which started out from the darkness of the evening in vivid brightness. The Champs Elysées presented a fairy-like scene; a triple row of white and variegated lamps, intersected by brilliantly-coloured Chinese lanterns and transparencies, hung in festoons along each side of the road; while at intervals were suspended chandeliers artistically constructed of wire and oil-lamps. Similar chandeliers were spread in profusion amid the trees of the Champs Elysées, and heightened the colouring of the scene. The calm of the evening and the absence of wind favoured the display of lights, and altogether the illuminations of last night were equal to any recently witnessed in this capital.

The preparations for the fireworks were on an extensive scale. At half-past nine the Emperor gave the signal for the commencement of the display by discharging a rocket from a balcony of the Ministry of Marine, which had been magnificently arranged for the Imperial family and the Court. Scarcely had the signal-rocket soared into the air than a reply of rockets took place from the Quai d'Orsay, while the cannon of the Invalides commenced an uninterrupted discharge. After a display of fireworks of every species, a representation of a Gothic edifice containing a baptismal font was lighted, and excited, by the beauty of its construction and architectural form, a remarkable enthusiasm among the immense multitude. Another discharge followed, and then an edifice corresponding to the first was fired, with the same marks of approbation. The fireworks ended with a magnificent bouquet of all colours, which elicited a shout of admiration, and then the immense ocean of human beings broke up, and flowed to apparently endless streams through every avenue. The Emperor appeared repeatedly at the balcony, and graciously acknowledged the enthusiastic acclamations of the crowd. The greatest order prevailed throughout the evening among the thousands of spectators.



THE BAPTISM OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE IN THE CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE DAME.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, AND THE IMPERIAL INFANT.—(SEE PAGE 679.)

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Monday evening the topic in all circles was the announcement, in both Houses of Parliament, that our Government did not intend to repay the expulsion of Mr. Crampton, our representative in the United States, by the dismissal of Mr. Dallas, the recently accredited Envoy from General Pierce. The general feeling on the subject was one of satisfaction. It is well that, whatever may have been our previous error in intrusting an important position to a gentleman of no very distinguished abilities, and whatever may have been his error in a complicated situation, we should have acted, on two points, with frankness and forbearance. We have tendered to the States an apology which even the reluctant Pierce is compelled to admit is satisfactory; and when, defeated by our straightforwardness, he is driven to the small spite of getting rid of some private individuals, for the sake of a swagger about "kicking out the Britishers," we have forbore to retaliate, have consented to regard the enlistment question as settled, and are prepared to discuss that of Central America. In this part of the transactions the Government of England has behaved as became it, and it now remains to be seen how honest are the professions of the Pierce Cabinet upon the subject remaining to be settled, and, whatever be the result, the hands of England will be free from blood-guiltiness. It is in the highest degree satisfactory to learn that the bellicose claptrops of the President are not likely to preserve that name to him, for we hear by the last mail that the Democratic Convention at Cincinnati has met, and has virtually, as is understood, settled the election, by unanimously choosing, as its candidate, Mr. James Buchanan, formerly the American representative here. This at least indicates the desire of the American people for a ruler of a political character different from that of the present intriguing head of the Republic.

The details of the christening of the son of France will be found elsewhere. The imposing ritual was performed with every magnificence which the soldier and the priest can lend to a spectacle; and the feminine element was also largely introduced, to refine and soften the pageant. The procession of ladies, with the mystic symbols appertaining to the sacrament of baptism, as administered by Rome, was one of the most interesting portions of the scene; but the most interesting of all was the presence of the fair and gentle mother of the young Christian. The Empress's appearance commanded the sympathy of all; and when, in the excitement of the moment, she embraced her infant with enthusiasm, the hardest heart present could not have suppressed a wish for the happiness of the child so singularly arriving at the Royal dignity. The Prince may have a stormy *avenir*, but he has commenced his career with all "the glory of regality."

A defeat of the Government on Tuesday night by Mr. Walpole, upon a question which neither Mr. Walpole nor his majority will be permitted to unsettle, is in itself a small matter. The Queen had a grand ball that night, and we presume that Lord Monck and Mr. Hayter could do nothing with their whips. The small majority for disturbing the system of National Education in Ireland (which, for a compromise, is working exceedingly well) is due to some of the two thousand invitations which were issued from Buckingham Palace, and the vote will be speedily rescinded. There is not much else in the Parliamentary week to call for mention. The Government plan in reference to the road across St. James's-park has been finally adopted—a road opening near Marlborough House, and a suspension-bridge across the ornamental water. We are very glad to be able to add that the idea of throwing this road open to vans, carts, and other heavy vehicles, will not be adopted, and that it will be kept solely for passenger traffic. The foot-passengers have especial reason to be thankful for the exclusion of the lumbering and thundering Juggernaut cars that afflict our great thoroughfares. Morning sittings have commenced in the House of Commons, from which it is inferred that the days of the Session are numbered.

The prisoner Palmer was duly hanged on Saturday morning at Stafford. He persisted in lying to the last, as might have been expected from the character of the miscreant, about whom there does not appear to have been the slightest redeeming quality. That he was a favourite with grooms, chambermaids, and servants generally, with whom he liked to joke, and to whom he gave a good deal of money, may be set down at its value, and in most persons' minds will scarcely go to the favourable side of the account, where, however, if placed, it would be the solitary item. No power of penny-a-lining can exalt this ruffian into a hero—not even the mawkish paragraphs of his advocates in the penny press, which, in its treatment of the Palmer question, shows how fit it is to be relied upon as an adviser of the people. Failing in saving Palmer, it now looks out for another respectable line of advocacy, and finds one in sneering at those who sympathise with Italian liberty. If war broke out in Italy, Manchester cotton would be less in demand than Birmingham bayonets; so Sardinia is to be written down by the scribblers for whom Ben Jonson (of whom they probably never heard) has provided a name, the *Pennyboys*.

An investigation before Mr. Henry, at Bow-street, has shown the utility of the Lunacy Commission. That body has decided a prosecution against the resident surgeon of the Wandsworth Asylum, on the charge of having occasioned the death of an elderly lunatic by a means which excites a horror akin to that with which one reads the records of Fox touching the martyrs to that missionary institution known as the Inquisition. If the witnesses speak the truth, a poor old man of disordered intellect, who became outrageous and struck the surgeon, was forcibly stripped, and thrust into a shower-bath in which the water descended in an unusually heavy volume. He was kept there, it is stated, under the fall of water for half an hour, during which time some six hundred gallons must have been poured upon him. He could not release himself; but, "if he had called very loud, the keeper might have heard him." Whether the poor old creature called or not is not in evidence; but soon after he was taken out his features assumed an agonised appearance; he had shivering fits; and in about twenty minutes he was dead. Anybody who has quailed under half a minute of the ordinary shower-bath will be able in some measure to appreciate what it is alleged this old man endured. The case has to be heard again; and at present there is but the statement for the prosecution and the evidence on one side—unless, indeed, we set on the other the volunteer declaration of Mr. Clarkson, the barrister, who, imitating Mr. Serjeant Shee, stated his conviction of the innocence of his client. The jury showed their opinion of Mr. Shee's testimony; and Mr. Henry actually rebuked Mr. Clarkson for his superfluous and improper declaration, which the excellent magistrate described as quite valueless.

People ask the reason why her Majesty, whose patronage of all public entertainments is so liberal, has made, up to the present time, an exception unfavourable to the Opera-house that bears her name? Two or three answers are given, but none seem of sufficient weight to induce the Sovereign to withhold from a great and meritorious undertaking that countenance which is so valuable to it. That any especial regard for any other establishment should have occasioned this deprivation of patronage is impossible—the Court of England can never be a partisan, and the Queen's own sense of justice is as proverbial as her kindness. Something has been said, also, about silly people thrusting worthless people into prominent places before the curtain; but English gentlemen, even if silly, are gentlemen, and can only have required a hint as to the impropriety of any conduct which can have attracted public notice. However, in the absence of any apparent reason why Her Majesty's Theatre is not honoured with her Majesty's support, we can only hope that the indefatigable exertions of Mr. Lumley to provide a first-class entertainment for the higher and educated classes will ere long be rewarded by the approbation of the first lady in the land.

MUSIC.

THE only novelty at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA has been the performance for the first time this season of "Don Giovanni," with Madame Devries, a debutante in this country, in the character of *Donna Anna*. Of this lady we had never heard before, though she is of mature years, and evidently has great experience of the stage. She has a good voice, which must have been better when she was younger: she acts with intelligence, and is altogether a sound artist. But, unfortunately, she is much too old for Mozart's interesting heroine, and her matronly appearance quite destroys the dramatic effect of the performance. It is the more surprising that this lady should be brought forward in this part that Madame Jenny Ney, a member of the company, the prima donna of the Dresden stage, and one of the greatest dramatic singers of the present day, was at hand to perform. The treatment of this lady at the Royal Italian Opera is quite unaccountable. She has been here for two seasons, and has never been allowed to appear in any opera save the "Provatore." Everything has a cause, if one could only find it out; but the cause of this strange *coup de théâtre* quite passes our comprehension. Rouconi once more essayed the character of *Don Giovanni*, notwithstanding the unequivocal failure of his last attempt. We wonder this admirable and intelligent artist cannot perceive how completely he is unsuited to this part. He has neither the person, the manner, nor the voice which it demands; and instead of the polish of the Spanish gentleman, and the graceful ease and gaiety of the fashionable libertine, he gives us the picture of a mere vulgar debauchee. The other parts, however, were well supported. Bosio was charming as *Zerlina*; Marai gave more than ordinary strength and importance to the fine but much-neglected character of *Elvira*; Gardoni sang beautifully as *Don Ottavio*; and Formes's *Leporello* is unrivalled. But the inadequacy of the two principal performers made the opera go off coldly and heavily.

MRS. ANDERSON'S annual concert is always the most brilliant benefit-concert of the season. For several years it has been given in Covent-garden Theatre; but this year it has been transferred to Her Majesty's Theatre, and has been supported by all the strength of Mr. Lumley's great establishment. It took place on Monday morning, when the house was crowded to the doors with the most fashionable company in London; for Mrs. Anderson's high character and talents have gained her the general esteem and favour of the whole musical world, from royalty downwards. The concert was a rich and varied banquet of music. All the great singers of the Opera, who are never heard at concerts—Alboni, Piccolomini, Albertini, Wagner, Belletti, Calzolari, Reichardt, and others—contributed their assistance, together with the fine orchestra and powerful chorus. There was also Madame Clara Novello, with several other eminent performers not belonging to the theatre; among whom was Mr. Charles Braham, newly arrived from Lisbon, where he has held a distinguished position on the opera stage. He has made great progress since he left England: his beautiful voice is cultivated and his style polished; and he is altogether an accomplished artist. Mrs. Anderson herself played one of Hummel's concertos. In consequence of the severe accident which injured her hand she has not performed in public for some years; and it was agreeable to find that she is perfectly recovered, and as able as ever to maintain her high position among the great pianists of the day.

THE fourth Concert of the Royal Academy of Music, on Tuesday morning, gave satisfactory proof of talent on the part of the pupils, cultivated by sound instruction. The young singers who distinguished themselves were Miss Forster, Miss Spiller, Miss Whyte, and Miss Shepherd, all pupils of Signor Garcia; and Miss Bignall, Miss Fo-brooke, and Miss Whitehead, pupils of Signor Schira. Miss Scott, a pupil of Mr. Holmes, gave great promise as a pianist; and a youthful violinist, Master Isaacs (a pupil of Mr. Blagrove), may already be called a masterly performer. The fault of this concert was that it did not afford any remarkable specimen of progress in the art of composition.

MADAME SCHUMANN gave a second "pianoforte recital" at the Hanover-square Rooms on Tuesday morning. The principal pieces she played were selected from the works of her husband. They were very original, and contained many striking effects, admirably given by Madame Schumann's fine performance; but their style must appear strange and fantastic to those whose ideas of the pure and beautiful in music are derived from the works of Mozart, Beethoven, and Mendelssohn.

THE NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY had their last concert of the season at the Hanover-square Rooms on Wednesday evening. The attraction of Madame Goldschmidt Lind filled the room to overflow, and numbers were obliged to listen, as they best could, in the ante-room. Madame Lind sang three pieces which she had sung on previous occasions—the well-known and somewhat hackneyed scena from the "Freischütz," the bravura air, "Squallida veste," from Rossini's "Turco in Italia," and a set of Chopin's pianoforte mazourkas, arranged for the voice and piano by Mr. Goldschmidt. She sang with all her usual brilliancy and effect, and was applauded with the usual enthusiasm. Mrs. Robinson, the distinguished Dublin pianist, played Mendelssohn's concerto in D minor, maintaining the high reputation she has gained in the Irish metropolis. There was a selection from Dr. Wyld's music to the "Paradise Lost," a work of merit, but not effective, the poetry of Milton's epic being not fitted for lyrical treatment. Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, extremely well played, was the great treat of the evening.

THE REUNION DES ARTS had an interesting soirée on Wednesday, given in honour of Madame Schumann, and fully attended by members and visitors. The first part consisted of music by Dr. Schumann: a violin quartet, several German lieder, and a pianoforte quartet, in which Madame Schumann performed the principal part. This last piece was admirably executed, the other parts being played by Messrs. Deichmann, Goffrie, and Hausmann. There was also some miscellaneous vocal music, in which Mlle. Krall and Herr von der Osten took part. This society goes on prosperously; it is well conducted, and its entertainments are exceedingly elegant and attractive.

MR. AND MADAME SYDNEY PRATTEN'S MATINEE MUSICALE.—This concert took place on Tuesday last in Willis's Rooms, under the patronage of several of the nobility. The vocalists were Mr. and Mrs. Weiss, Miss Louisa Vinning, Madame and Mlle. Rudersdorf, and Miss Fanny Rowland; and the instrumental performers Mr. G. A. Osborne (pianoforte), Mr. Lazarus (clarinet), Mr. Baumann (bassoon), Mr. Sydney Pratten (flute), and Madame Pratten (guitar and concertina). Mr. and Madame Weiss—now become indispensable at thorough English concerts—gave universal satisfaction by their charming duet, "O du Geliebte." The ballad of "Fond Memories" composed by Mr. Weiss, and sung by Madame, was also very effective, and reflected the greatest honour both upon the composer and the singer. Madame Rudersdorf, with the best intentions no doubt, but, not very wisely, sang a song of Piccolomini's; later in the afternoon she attempted something less daring—a canzonette not associated with any great name—and succeeded admirably. Miss Louisa Vinning sang "Ernani Involmi" with extraordinary power, executing the most difficult passages with a ease and finish which it usually takes a lifetime to acquire. Miss Fanny Rowland and Mlle. Matilde Rudersdorf each contributed a song, and were well received. Mlle. Pratten performed on two instruments, the guitar and the concertina, and it is impossible to say which gave the most pleasure. Mr. Pratten performed excellently on the flute, both in concert and solo; and Mr. Osborne played in a quartet with the other instrumental performers, but did not favour the audience with a solo. The concert was well attended.

THE GOLD-DUST ROBBERY.—A few days since a discovery of a most extensive robbery of gold and silver amounting to nearly £11,000 was made at the Bank of England. Several boxes, supposed to contain specie, had arrived from Southampton, by the *Solent* West India steamer, and were consigned for security to the custody of the Bank authorities. On undergoing examination the discovery was made that the whole of the precious metal had been abstracted, and that shot and lumps of lead had been substituted. The boxes were traced to different merchants at New Granada, and appeared to have been shipped at Carthagena on board the steamer above named for England, a Monday notice was posted at Lloyd's for the information of the underwriters, that the police at Carthagena, after the departure of the steamer, had received information of the robbery, and had taken into custody the thieves, with about 120 lb. weight of gold (£5000) in their possession—a portion of the plunder. The parties implicated are said to be the sailors who brought the boxes to Carthagena from the interior of the country.

AN UNPOPULAR QUEEN.—The editor of a democratic journal at Madrid was being tried the other day for sedition writing, when the public prosecutor commenced to eulogise Queen Christa, and, in a kind of appeal to the democratic party, demanded if her Majesty was not worthy to occupy the throne of Spain? "No," coolly exclaimed one of the auditors. The prosecutor grew very angry and protested that she was, when the murmurs were so loud that the President had the greatest difficulty in appeasing the tumult. The editor was acquitted.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

MR. MACAULAY has undertaken to write the life of Samuel Johnson for the forthcoming volume of the "Edinburgh Encyclopædia" of Adam and Charles Black. The full-length sketch of Johnson in Mr. Macaulay's *Essays* is a masterpiece in its way. Will the memoir be as good? Will the writer renew his attack on Mr. Croker?

On the same day that we were told of the circumstance we have just announced, we received the reprinted defence of Mr. Croker's edition of Boswell, made, in 1831, by a writer in *Blackwood*, in reply to a "diverting and provoking" review in the *Edinburgh*, known at the time as by Mr. Macaulay, and since included in every reprint, dear and cheap, of the "Essays" of our great Whig historian. Mr. Murray, as the proprietor of Mr. Croker's edition, has been induced in part to issue this defence from the mistake of a contemporary to which we directed attention a few weeks back. The reprint, reviewed as a recent publication by our contemporary, appeared twenty-five years ago; the copy which by the courtesy of Mr. Murray is now before us is a reprint fresh from the printer's hands, and bears the date of the present year.

Mr. Murray's best reason for reprinting the defence of Mr. Croker is founded, we believe, partly on the success of the defence itself, and partly to remove an unjust belief perpetuated by the essayist, that Mr. Croker's edition of Boswell is the worst-edited book in the English language. When Mr. Macaulay wrote his famous review he was a young Whig politician, willing to wound and not afraid to strike. Mr. Croker was a standard Tory statesman and a well-known Quarterly Reviewer, willing to wound, and most certainly not afraid to strike. A kind of wit combat had taken place between them in Parliament, and the coterie at Holland House pitted the young man fresh from Trinity College, Cambridge, against the Secretary of the Admiralty and the life and backbone of the *Quarterly Review*. A great Whig laugh was raised at the time when the number of the *Edinburgh Review* appeared containing Mr. Macaulay's attack on Mr. Croker. Thousands have been diverted with it since who know nothing of what Mr. Croker has done for Boswell and for Johnson but from what Mr. Macaulay has told them. The reviewer allows no kind of merit to Mr. Croker; and the impression which he leaves is exactly what he sought to convey—that of a British classic edited by a person thoroughly incompetent to his task.

As the merits of the Macaulay and Croker controversy have been revived by this reissue of the Defence, and as the subject is at present one of Town Talk in literary circles, we may be excused for enlarging on a matter of so much interest. Mr. Croker made no reply till the year 1848, when in a new edition of Boswell he defended some of his imputed mistakes, and repaired the great but ingenious blunder of his former edition—the inlaying the text of his author with other people's contributions. A better-edited book than this edition of Boswell of 1848 does not exist in English literature. It is, perhaps, a little disfigured by the Macaulay controversy, and by that curious entry in its index of "Blundering Criticism, see Macaulay, T.B." The great point of controversy between these twin Privy Counsellors has been set for ever at rest by the production of at least twenty copies of a book which Mr. Macaulay asserted, and still asserts, was never published. This is the "History of Prince Titi," a book which Johnson saw with surprise when in Paris in the library of a French lady. We have a copy of the book before us while we write, and Mr. Macaulay may see another published copy of the book which he asserts was never published in a collection he is known to consult very often, the library at Lansdowne-house. When Mr. Macaulay reprints his "Essays" he should acknowledge his mistakes, and cease in this instance to misinform his readers.

The picture of the week is "The Council of War on the morning previous to the storming of the Mamelon," painted by Mr. Egg, whose absence this year from the Exhibition of the Royal Academy was so much regretted by all who take an interest in art. The cause of his absence is happily accounted for in this fine cabinet picture. It is a picture of three persons in the favourite pyramidal form. The scene is laid in Lord Raglan's quarters in camp, and the persons represented are Lord Raglan, Omer Pacha, and Marshal Pelissier. The plan of the attack is explained on a map by Marshal Pelissier, who is standing to the English and Turkish Generals, who are seated. So lifelike is the picture that one can almost fancy the Marshal to be speaking. It is easy to see that the plan of attack has brought conviction to the French Marshal's companions in arms. The smile of satisfaction on Lord Raglan's face is particularly happy. The likenesses are excellent—true, we feel confident, to the men themselves, and most certainly true to the many photographs by good and various hands that we have of them. They are in their actual dresses, and the contrast between the Turk, the Englishman, and the Frenchman is pictorial in the highest degree. In point of execution the picture is excellent, firm, glowing, and truthful.

Whoever takes an interest in a British Museum of British Antiquities, should make a point of visiting (there is no charge for admission) the important collection of antiquities formed by Mr. Whincopp, of Woodbridge, in Suffolk, and about to be scattered by Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson. The collection is well known to Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries and the members of the Archaeological Institute and the Archaeological Association. Colchester, York, and London have yielded Roman treasures to the Whincopp collection. The Eastern counties have been dug and drained for curious Saxon remains. Urns, rings, and fibulae abound; suggesting a wish that dividend-day at the Bank was a little nearer.

This reference to our well-known auctioneers of books, manuscripts, and antiquities, reminds us of a pleasant rumour that has reached us connected with the father of the firm. Mr. Sotheby has just completed his two expensively-illustrated quarto volumes on block-books; and is now (when the hammer of the auctioneer and the pen of the skilled compiler in catalogues are not in hand) actively engaged on the third and concluding volume—"Early Watermarks on Paper." He is to dedicate his work to the Philobiblist Society.

The last cargo of Assyrian sculptures was on Saturday transferred at Havre; from the French ship *Manuel* to the English Steam-packet Company's ship *Soho*, and has now reached England, and been deposited in the British Museum. These sculptures comprise about fifty cases of the best works of Assyrian art, being the series discovered by Mr. Loftus in the lower story of Asshur-bani-pal's palace at Kouyunjik: amongst them are several which have been engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS—viz, the Queen of Assyria drinking beneath the Vine; the King hunting a Lion; and the King pouring a libation. There is a full and nearly complete Hunting series, of the finest workmanship. In a Wild Ass Hunt, the animals are represented taken in the lasso, shot by the King's arrows, and worried by dogs. Another series, found in an ascending passage, represents a Procession to the Hunting-ground, with dogs, nets, &c.; and the return home with the spoils—dead lions, birds, hares, &c. The collection includes also five or six cases containing the famous inscription recording Senacherib's campaign against Hezekiah, which Mr. Loftus contrived very ingeniously, notwithstanding its fractured and calcined state, to cut away from the Bull at the entrance to Senacherib's palace, and pack safely before he left Assyria. The *Manuel* brought, likewise for the Louvre, twenty-eight cases which were saved from the unfortunate French collection: among these sculptures is a Bull from Khorsabad, similar to those in the French and British Museums.

Mlle. Sarah Felix, Mlle. Rachel's sister, has returned to Paris, from the United States, to engage a French company for a theatre which she intends opening in America.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

DISMISSAL OF MR. CRAMPTON.—The Earl of DERBY inquired to what, if any, conclusion her Majesty's Government had arrived as to the course advisable to be taken with regard to the questions between this country and the United States?—The Earl of CLARENDON said that as soon as the papers on the subject, now in the hands of the printers, were delivered, together with the answer of her Majesty's Government to Mr. Marcy's despatches, he would be prepared to answer the Earl of Derby's question. But, as it was their duty to allay the present anxiety, he might then state that it was not the intention of her Majesty's Government to dismiss Mr. Dallas.—The Earl of DERBY could not but rejoice at the announcement, since, although the United States' Government was not in the right, our Minister certainly had been in the wrong. The United States had just cause of complaint. To submit to the dismissal of our Minister was humiliating, but it must be done; and what was more, he rejoiced at the resolution adopted by her Majesty's Ministers.

LIMITED LIABILITY BILL.—Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY proposed the second reading of the Limited Liability Bill. He said the time had gone by when joint-stock enterprise was to be regarded with suspicion. They knew now that it merited encouragement, and that the encumbrances and difficulties interposed to its progress by former jealousies and suspicions should be removed. The industry of this country, the vast energies of its people, its wondrous tendency to development, were at present overweighed in the race with Continental nations. There would be less chance of fraud under this bill than under the old system, for when the public had to protect themselves they would naturally look after their own interests; whereas, at present, relying upon Government protection, they lost the advantage of individual vigilance.—Lord MONTAGUE said that the bill was contrary to the principles of Free-trade. The bill was all restrictions. It was the third of a series, and comprehended all the evils of its predecessors. Who would be the sufferers? The humbler classes, with their small savings filched from them by designing men in fraudulent enterprises, over which they could have no control. What would these companies be but lotteries?—a new and frightful species of gambling. Had they forgotten the railway mania—when it drew within its vortex men, women, and even children, and opened gambling-shops, its offices, at the corner of every great street? So would it be again.—The Duke of ARGYLL quoted speeches of Lord Montague to show his Lordship in the wrong as to his estimate of the probable perils about to ensue from the passing of the bill. The Government could not discriminate between good and bad speculation. Therefore the Government ought not to interfere. The former system had been no protection to prudence, neither was this inconsistent with it. There was abundance of capital in the country lying dormant for want of facilities for investment.—On a division the numbers were—Contents, 18; Non-contents, 5; Majority, 13.—The bill was then read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

SALE OF DECEASED OFFICERS' COMMISSIONS.—Mr. GROGAN moved a resolution to address the Queen, praying that she would be graciously pleased to direct that officers dying of disease while on active service should have power to leave to their relatives the value of their commissions, the same as if they fell in action.—The motion was supported by Sir De Lacy Evans, Colonel Dunne, and Colonel North; and this latter officer also complained of the injustice which the recent regulations on army promotion inflicted on old officers in the Army. After some further discussion, the resolution was rejected by a majority of 81 to 39.

FUTURE ORGANISATION OF THE ARMY.—The House having gone into Committee of Supply, a conversation ensued on the reductions that were to take place, and the future organisation of the Army, and complaints were made by Colonel Dunne, Sir De Lacy Evans, and others as to the preference that was shown for the foreign troops over the regiments of the Line and the Militia.—Mr. FEE denied that any preference had been shown. The disembodiment of the Militia took place under Act of Parliament; the Foreign Legions were to be kept up by their Convention, but he hoped they would all be disbanded by the autumn. He then proceeded to state the future organisation of the Army. It was proposed to make every regiment of infantry consist of a strength of 1000 men, to be formed into twelve companies—eight for service, and four for depot companies. The service companies would be placed in brigades and divisions. The Guards would be reduced by 2000 men. The strength of the cavalry was not yet fixed, but it was intended to keep in pay a greater force of men than horses. There would be little or no reduction in the Artillery; and the men would be trained both as gunners and drivers. The total saving would be about six millions a year.

THE BRIDGE IN ST. JAMES'S-PARK.—On bringing up the report on Supply, Lord ELCHINGHAM rose to oppose the vote for throwing a foot-bridge over the ornamental water in St. James's park. He took for granted that the House would not allow the beauty of the Parks to be destroyed, even for the sake of public convenience. Now, he did not think this foot-bridge would be an ornament, but the contrary. However, on this point, he was willing to be guided by the opinion of Sir Joseph Paxton. He had another objection to the vote, and that was, that no matter of ornament or taste ought to be left to the judgment of the Board of Works, unless a plan was produced to the House. And as Sir B. Hall had proposed to run a cart-road through the Park for the convenience of Westminster and Marylebone, that showed the right hon. Baronet had no taste.—Sir J. PAXTON expressed great doubts as to the picturesque effect of the proposed bridge. He would recommend that the vote should be postponed to another Session, as he had never yet seen the necessity for any bridge whatever.—The vote was ultimately carried by 119 to 93.

HANOVER EMBASSY.—Lord PALMERSTON said, in answer to Mr. Wise, that it was not the intention of the Government to break up the diplomatic establishment at Hanover. It was quite true the House of Commons had last year recommended that this should be done; but he thought the Government ought to have confidence placed in them to this extent, that they knew best where to place their diplomatic agents.

THE SARDINIAN LOAN.—The House having resolved itself into Committee, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER proposed a resolution for the loan of a second million to the Government of Sardinia, by which one million was lent at the time, and another million was to be lent that time twelvemonth, if the war continued.—The resolution was agreed to without comment, and the House resumed.

OUR RELATIONS WITH AMERICA.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Lord J. RUSSELL rose to ask the Government what were our present relations with the United States. Had there been any negotiations going on between the two countries he would not have put this question; but the question was, whether there was to be any diplomatic intercourse between the countries whatever? He understood that there was now no dispute between the two Governments; but it appeared the Government of the United States did not give the same credit to her Majesty's representative there, and on account of his conduct there, had dismissed him. But they accompanied this dismissal with very positive assurances of their good will towards England, and had declared their willingness to submit some of the other points in dispute to arbitration. He did not mean to go into any of these questions. But the House ought to know whether the Government meant to dismiss Mr. Dallas, the American Minister; and next, what was intended to be done with any force that, pending the negotiation, might be sent to Greytown? If the Government considered that the removal of Mr. Crampton was a wanton insult, the Government could not but resent the insult by dismissing Mr. Dallas. If they believed that an insult was not intended, then he maintained that, following former precedents, they should not resent it, but proceed to negotiations on other matters. On the question of Central America, he thought the despatch of Mr. Marcy was calm and dispassionate, and, while he maintained the opinions held in America, still he was willing to submit to arbitration. It was said that, even if Mr. Dallas were dismissed, still these negotiations might be carried on by other means. He did not think this would be befitting the dignity of this country, and he would be glad if the same hand that signed the pacification of the East should terminate the disputes in the West. With respect to Central America, again, it was obvious that the power which was now ruling in Nicaragua might make an irruption into the Mosquito territory, which was under our protection. It was right, therefore, that our Government should have a force in the neighbourhood to protect British subjects; but he wished to know what steps were to be taken with that view, so as to prevent a collision between the ships and forces of her Majesty, and the ships and forces of the United States.

Lord PALMERSTON admitted it was natural that the House should wish to be informed on this question, and, if no member of the House had put the question, he would himself have given information to the House. Though the United States' Government had dismissed Mr. Crampton, yet that was not considered by them as a rupture of all diplomatic negotiations, and the Government had, therefore, not deemed it their duty to advise her Majesty to suspend diplomatic intercourse, and that they would, therefore, be prepared to enter into negotiations with Mr. Dallas upon other matters. [This declaration elicited considerable cheers from the Ministerial side.] With regard to the British squadron on the coast of Central America, the instructions to the commander related to British interests, British persons, and British property; and there was nothing to hazard a collision. Under the circumstances the Government thought it right their force should be strong, but being strong they would not become the aggressors. Having made these declarations, he hoped the House would be content with them, and would not continue the discussion. He would only say that the naval strength of this country at the present moment enabled her to act with calmness and moderation, without fear of her motives being misunderstood.

Mr. DISRAELI would not enter into the question further than to say that, though the American Government had chosen to draw a distinction between the Government and Mr. Crampton, he was sure the House would not follow their example, or agree to make Mr. Crampton the scapegoat of these quarrels. He did not mean to express an opinion at the present moment whether the Government was to blame or not; but

the House would do well to take an early opportunity of expressing an opinion upon the point. He would also advise the House to take an early opportunity to inquire into the reason why it was that the American Government was so jealous of our acts, and insisted on immediate reparation when they imagined wrong was done to them. He traced that jealousy to the fact that Lord Palmerston had opposed the treaty of the north-eastern boundary, and contended that they looked upon that noble Lord as their enemy in consequence. He warned the House not to be jealous of American aggression on that continent, and pointed to the acquisition of California as having contributed to the wealth of England as much as to that of the United States.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The House of Lords sat only for a short time, and adjourned after forwarding several bills a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Mr. WALPOLE moved an address to her Majesty praying that her Majesty will be pleased to direct that such modifications may be made in the rules of the national system of education in Ireland as will extend the advantages now enjoyed by non-vested schools to any other than vested schools now existing, or hereafter to be established, whatever their regulations may be as to the mode of religious instruction; provided that no children shall be compelled to learn any catechism, creed, or formula to which any parent or guardian may object; and provided that the patrons shall be willing to place such schools in connection with the Board, to permit the Board's control over books to be used in general instruction, and to receive officially the visits of the Government inspectors. He asked the House to assent to this address, and rested his case upon principles to which the House had agreed. The only objection he could anticipate was that his object would destroy the combined system of education in Ireland; but he proceeded to show that this combined system did not, in fact, exist in the national non-vested schools, which were almost entirely secular, and that, on the contrary, the combined system did exist in the Church schools. What he proposed was, not to interfere with the vested schools; and, with respect to the non-vested schools, he did not propose any alterations that would deprive the Presbyterians or others of any advantages they now enjoyed; but he asked that such modifications might be extended to these non-vested schools as would enable members of the Church of Ireland to educate their children there in their own way, under certain conditions.

The motion was seconded by Sir W. HEATHCOTE, who observed that its object was little more than to enable the National Board to cover ground in Ireland upon which it could not at present set its foot, while it would get rid of a crying injustice, which irritated many and benefited none.

Mr. KENNEDY opposed the motion, which, if adopted, would, he said, overturn a system that was working satisfactorily, and revive religious discord in Ireland, for the sake of one-seventh or one-eighth of the schools.

Mr. HORSMAN likewise resisted the motion, undertaking to show that it would be highly detrimental to the national interests, to the cause of education, and to the public peace in Ireland. He agreed with Mr. Walpole that religion should be the basis of education in Ireland; he differed from him when he supposed that religion did not enter very largely into the instruction given in the national schools. Royal commissions and Parliamentary Committees had declared that no plan of education could be effectual in Ireland unless it was well and clearly understood that no attempt would be made to influence or disturb the peculiar religious tenets of any sect or denomination. Was the House now prepared to say, he asked, that a system of education which involved such interference would be successful? If not, they could not adopt this motion, which declared, in effect, that it was advisable to interfere with religious tenets, and violated the fundamental principle upon which the national system of education in Ireland was founded. This system had been embraced by nine-tenths of the population, and was rejected by only a part of the clergy and laity of the Established Church, who thereby excluded themselves from the grant. He appealed to the testimony of eminent public men who had been opponents of the national system, in commendation of its practical operation, and to the emphatic declarations of Lord Derby, when in power, and of Lord Eglinton, against such a change as was now sought to be made in the system. He could not reconcile Mr. Walpole's conduct, in his present course, with his presumed opinions upon this question as a member of Lord Derby's Cabinet in 1852.

Mr. G. A. HAMILTON supported the motion, which he thought would have the effect of settling this question, by removing a sense of injustice which prevailed among Protestants in Ireland, and rendering the system which it would supplement, not subvert, efficient by enabling all parties to avail themselves of it.

Mr. H. HUGHES opposed the motion, and spoke in favour of the system of the National Board, which had won, he said, the confidence of the people.

Mr. NAPIER contended that the motion did not propose to add any restrictions; it would remove restrictions, so as to include other schools and make the system a really national one. He asked that the same principle might be applied to the Protestants of Ireland as had been applied in England, and even in India, where no exclusive condition was attached to educational grants.

Mr. DEASY hoped the House would not accede to this motion, which would place Roman Catholics in the same condition as they were before the National Board was established, and introduce a bitter internecine war among religious sects. It would give an impulse to efforts at proselytism, to which there was a tendency in the Church Education Society, and the proposed modification of the rules would indefinitely increase that tendency.

Mr. DE VERE moved that the debate be adjourned, but this motion was negatived on a division.

After some remarks by Sir J. FITZGERALD in opposition to the motion, the House divided upon the original question, when Mr. Walpole's motion was carried by 113 to 103—a majority of 10 against the Government.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

THE UNITED STATES.—Mr. BAILLIE, in reply to Major Reed, announced that it was not his intention to bring forward the motion of which he had given notice for this (Thursday) evening respecting the disputes with the United States.

The House having resumed its discussion in Committee of the Dwellings of the Labouring Classes (Ireland) Bill, the remaining clauses were agreed to, and some additional ones brought up and added to the measure.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Mr. C. FORTESCUE, adverting to the resolution on the subject of National Education in Ireland which had been carried on the previous night, expressed his conviction that the majority on that occasion did not represent the real sense of the House. He intimated his intention to propose a counter-resolution supporting the present system, and hoped that an early day might be fixed for its discussion.

Lord PALMERSTON coincided in the opinion that the vote of Tuesday should be considered accidental, and appointed Monday next for the further discussion of the subject upon the motion notified by Mr. Fortescue.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

THE SARDINIAN LOAN.—On the motion of the Earl of CLARENDON, the Message from the Queen in reference to the Sardinian Loan was considered, and a resolution empowering the advancement of a second million to the Sardinian Government was agreed to.

THE ABJURATION OATH.—The Earl of DERBY moved the first reading of a bill to amend the Oath of Abjuration taken by members of Parliament by leaving out the words relating to the Pretender. In the event of the bill sent up from the House of Commons being rejected, it was his intention to press his measure forward.

The Factory Bill, on the motion of the Earl of DERBY, was read a second time.

The Police (Boroughs and Counties) Bill passed through Committee.

The Industrial and Provident Societies Bill was read a second time.

The Reformatory and Industrial Schools Bill was reported, with amendments.

The Excise Bill passed through Committee.

The Insurance on Lives (Abatement of Income-tax) Bill passed through Committee.

SIR W. F. WILLIAMS' ANNUITY BILL.—On the motion for the third reading of his bill, the Earl of MALMESBURY drew attention to the death of Major Thompson, one of the heroes of Kars, and to the extremely straitened circumstances of his mother, who was scarcely able to defray the funeral expenses of her deceased son.—The Marquis of LANDSDOWN expressed his deep regret at learning these facts, and said that the country owed a deep debt of gratitude to all the gallant officers who so nobly defended Kars under the most trying circumstances. He would take care to represent the case mentioned by the noble Earl in the proper quarter.—The bill was read a third time and passed.

The Welshman Loan Bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at twelve o'clock. NEW MEMBER.—Mr. Biggs took the oaths and his seat for Leicester, in the room of Mr. Gardner, deceased.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS (SCOTLAND) BILL.—This bill passed through Committee, the Lord Advocate having consented to limit the operation of it for this year to borough only.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.—Mr. WALPOLE said, having understood that Lord Palmerston on the previous day had consented to give up Monday next to Mr. Fortescue for the purpose of a motion to

reverse the decision of the House on Tuesday last for an address to the Crown on the subject of education in Ireland, he wished to know what course Government intended to take upon the matter?—Lord PALMERSTON replied that upon being asked for a night for such a purpose he had consented to give up Monday night for the motion, from the belief that the resolution of the House on Tuesday night was likely, if not reversed, to lead to mischievous consequences.—Mr. WALPOLE said that that was no answer to his question; and he thought that the House had a right to know when there was a resolution submitted for the reversal of a decision of the House for an address to the Crown what course the Government intended to pursue (hear, hear).—Lord PALMERSTON said that the Government would support any motion calculated to reverse the decision of the House on Tuesday night (Cheers).

ARMY ESTIMATES.—The House went into Committee of Supply upon the remaining Army Estimates.

BARRACK ACCOMMODATION.—On the vote of £45,000 for works, buildings, and repairs at home and abroad, Colonel LINDSAY called attention to the necessity of improving the accommodation of soldiers in barracks. Mr. MONSELL said that the subject was under consideration, and £40,000 of the vote would be devoted to the construction and improvement of barracks. There was, however, barracks accommodation in England for about 30,000 men; in Scotland for about 3000 men; and in Ireland for about 15,000 men; making up a total of about 50,000 men. To put these barracks into the state recommended would cost £500,000 or £600,000; and he considered it would be better to see how the experiments about to be tried answered before venturing upon such an expenditure.—After some remarks from Sir C. Napier, Sir De Lacy Evans, and other hon. members, the vote was agreed to. The remainder of the night was occupied by a consideration of the other votes.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince Consort went to Aldershot on Monday; and after reviewing the troops remained during the night in the Royal hut. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were accompanied by the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice, and by their Royal Highnesses the Prince Regent of Baden and Prince Frederick William of Prussia. The Queen returned to town on Tuesday afternoon, and the same night gave a State ball at Buckingham Palace, for which nearly two thousand invitations were issued.

On Wednesday the Queen went to witness the opening of the great fountains at the Crystal Palace. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, the Regent of Baden, Prince Frederick William of Prussia, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, and other members of the Royal suite, left Buckingham Palace at twenty minutes past four o'clock in four open carriages and four, escorted by a detachment of the 3rd Light Dragoons. Her Majesty and the Royal party returned from Sydenham to the Palace at a quarter to eight o'clock, and afterwards honoured the performance of Madame Ristori, in "Maria Stuarda," at the Lyceum Theatre, with her presence.

On Thursday the Queen took a drive in an open landau and four, accompanied by her illustrious visitors, and in the evening honoured the Royal Italian Opera with her presence.

Yesterday (Friday) the Queen held her last Drawingroom for the present season.

THE STATE BALL.

The Queen gave a State Ball, on Tuesday evening, at Buckingham Palace, to a very numerous party, comprising the Royal family, Royal foreign visitors, the whole of the diplomatic corps, the Ministers and officers of State, foreigners of distinction now in this country, and a large party of the nobility and gentry. The Ball and Concert Room, the Promenade Gallery, the Approach Gallery, the new Ante-room, the State Dining-room, Yellow Drawing-room, White Drawing-room, Picture Gallery, and Green Drawing-room were all opened for this reception, and several of the suite were tastefully decorated with rare and beautiful flowering shrubs and plants. The Foreign Ambassadors and Ministers, the Cabinet Ministers, the officers of the Royal Household, and those having the privilege of the entrée, entered the Palace by the equestrian entrance in Piccadilly. The general company alighted at the Grand Hall, and began to arrive soon after nine o'clock. The Royal family entered by the garden entrance to the Palace. Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary were attended by Lady Geraldine Somerset and Major Home Purves.

The Marquis of Breadalbane, K.T., Lord Chamberlain, and the other officers of State, conducted her Majesty and her illustrious circle to the Ball and Concert Room, which her Majesty entered at ten minutes before ten o'clock. The company from the Picture Gallery and the State saloons followed the Royal party. M. Laurent's quadrille band played "God Save the Queen" on her Majesty's entrance; and directly afterwards performed a quadrille from Verdi's new opera, "La Traviata," by D'Albert. In this quadrille the Queen opened the ball.

Her Majesty wore a dress of Indian muslin, embroidered in gold sprigs, and a broad gold border in bouquets, trimmed with bunches of red cactus and green leaves, ornamented with diamonds. The Queen's head-dress was formed of red cactus, green leaves, and diamonds.

The Princess Royal wore a rich blue glacé dress, covered with blue and white net, trimmed with bunches of cherry blossom; the body and sleeves trimmed to correspond. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was composed of cherry blossom.

The Duchess of Cambridge wore a dress of white silk, with a triple flounce of point d'Aleçon, each flounce edged with satin ribbon and white marabout fringe. The corsage was trimmed to correspond, and the stomacher covered with large sapphires and diamonds; the necklace was diamonds. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was formed of a pearl tiara and lilac feathers.

The Princess Mary of Cambridge wore a white tulle dress, with graduated bouffants from the top to the bottom, over a rich white glacé petticoat, trimmed all over with bunches of corn flowers. The corsage and sleeves trimmed to match with bouquets and diamond ornaments. The stomacher and necklace diamonds. The Princess's head-dress was composed of corn flowers and diamond stars.

After the first quadrille had been danced, a waltz, "The Rose of England" (H. Laurent), dedicated to her Majesty the Queen, was played, and successive dances followed until supper was announced at midnight. The Queen did not leave the Ball-room until two o'clock. At the ball Major-General Sir William Fenwick Williams (Kars) had the honour of being presented to her Majesty, by the Earl of Clarendon.

THE NEW STATE BALL-ROOM, BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

Our representation of this magnificent apartment displays the throne or dais end, and the effect when lighted for the dance. The style of architecture is Cinque Cento; the proportions are, 110 feet long, 60 wide, and 45 high. The ceiling is divided into twenty-one compartments by bold single beams, from east to west, and double beams from side to side, or north to south, the double beam surrounding the whole. At the intersections are small pendants in white and gold. The flat of the beam is covered with the interlaced Etruscan ornament, in gold; the mouldings are of white and gold. The flat of the soffit or recessed pane is dark blue, upon which is rendered a small raised flower in white. Both colour and ornament are repeated in all the twenty-one recesses, from each of which depends a crystal lamp composed of facets, within which are placed the gas jets to light the upper portion of the room. The coverings, frieze, and cornice are richly decorated in stucco, having a neatly tinted background to relieve the ornamentation. The walls on each side are divided in two parts, the upper of each containing thirteen compartments: six, surrounded by large borders enriched with gold, contain paintings of the Hours of the Day, copied after Raphael by Professor N. Canzoni, of Rome; the others are filled by windows which at night are illumined by gas jets; the glass is ground and polished in the form of stars. The broad flat of the walls below is filled with a rich silk bearing the national devices in flowers, and has a pleasing effect when viewed rather from the side. On the south wall are two large looking-glasses, surrounded by a broad moulding, enriched with gold and colour, the upper part carrying a frieze, divided into three parts, decorated by some very pleasing sculpture by Theed. Corresponding with these glasses are two doors on the other side similarly enriched with mouldings and sculpture. The door nearest the dais end leads to the approach-gallery, and is the entrance for her Majesty and the Royal family; the other door leads to the promenade and entrance for the general company. Around the room, excepting the dais end, extend three rows of seats, divided only by the approaches; and at each door and each mirror there are two bold, richly-ornamented candelabra, each bearing forty fine waxlights within glasses. The western end of the apartment is entirely set apart for her Majesty and her Court. Upon the centre of the dais is placed an elegant chair, behind which, in the recess, are seats placed close to the wall. Above rises the bold arch shown in our Illustration, supporting its figure of Fame, bearing a medallion, upon which, in bas-relief, the portraits of her Majesty and Prince Albert are rendered. This large arch forms the recess, which is backed entirely by mirrors, excepting the lunette above, in which at present is an allegory of Britannia sanctioning peace. On each side the dais are candelabra, corresponding in form to those on each side the doors. The floor is highly polished, and is formed of mahogany, satin, and wainscot, wood. The architect is Mr. James Pennethorne. Mr. Lewis Gruner has produced the decorative details, which have been ably carried out by Mr. Moxon; and Messrs. Osler, of Birmingham, have constructed the gaseliers or lamps to the ceiling.



THE NEW STATE BALL-ROOM AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

JOHANNA WAGNER, the celebrated prima donna of the Berlin Opera, respecting whom so much curiosity has been excited in this country by circumstances which everybody must remember, has at length appeared before the English public, and met with the reception due to her merits and her fame. She made her debut on Saturday last, in the character of *Romeo*, in Bellini's opera "*I Capuletti ed i Montecchi*." For some days previously it was whispered about that an attempt would be made to get up an expression of disapprobation of the part alleged to have been taken by her in the disputes between the rival managers—a part for which no blame could attach personally to her; but if any such foolish and malicious intention had existed it was completely frustrated by the acclaim of enthusiastic welcome which burst from the audience in every part of the house the moment the fair stranger presented herself before them.

For the splendid triumph achieved by her on this occasion *Mdlle. Wagner* was not indebted to the merits of the opera, which is among the weakest of the many weak productions of the modern Italian stage. It is one of Bellini's earliest pieces, composed while his powers were yet immature, and not comparable to any of the subsequent works on which his reputation is founded. The airs are pretty,—for every Italian composer, however little of an artist, has a natural vein of melody, and can at least write prettily,—but they are life and common, without any individuality or characteristic expression. As a sheet of white paper receives any meaning that may be impressed upon it, so these vague, blank melodies have no expression save that which is given to them by the singer. These airs, moreover, are not artificially treated; and the concerted music betrays such a lack of constructive skill as to show that the composer, when he wrote this opera, was little more than a tyro in his art. So generally has its weakness been felt, that it has seldom been performed without attempts to strengthen it by the introduction of music by other composers. The most general practice has been to throw aside the last act, substituting the last act of an older opera on the same subject, by *Vaccai*. The improvement thus made, however, is very small; and *Mdlle. Wagner* has done right in not adopting it. For a work from one hand must have consistency and unity of design, however feeble its execution may be. The success of this opera must be ascribed entirely to its sub-



MIDDLE JOHANNA WAGNER AS "ROMEO," AT HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

ject, the tale of the hapless pair whose names have been immortalised by Shakspeare, and still live in the traditions of the ancient city of Verona. The plot of the opera is very slight, and differs from Shakspeare in several particulars; but the leading incidents are similar; and, in the catastrophe, the Italian dramatist has adopted Garlick's alteration. *Romeo*, breaking open *Juliet's* tomb, and finding her, as he thinks, lying dead on her bier, swallows poison. She awakes and rises; *Romeo*, in the rapture of their reunion, forgets what he has done. But the rapture is momentary, and is followed by despair and the agony of death. *Romeo* expires, and *Juliet* falls lifeless on his body. Alterations upon Shakspeare are not to be admitted on our stage; but it must be allowed in this case that the variation deepens the tragic effect of the catastrophe.

Such is the piece which has served to introduce Johanna Wagner to the English public. The character of *Romeo* is regarded as one of the finest of her parts; and, feebly as it is drawn and coloured by the Italian dramatist, it is sufficient to show that she is a tragedian of the highest order. It is, indeed, in the dramatic department of her art that her greatest strength evidently lies, and it was to this department that she was first drawn by the earliest bent of her genius. She was an actress before she was a singer; and, by the time she was fifteen, she had appeared with distinction both in tragedy and serious comedy. Her father, himself an eminent musician, had given her a musical education, and she afterwards profited by the lessons of *Garcia*, the ablest vocal instructor of the day. Thus prepared, she appeared on the musical stage, where she speedily rose to her present pre-eminent position. A biographical notice says that she was born in Hanover, in 1831; and though, owing to her precocity, her name has long been known in the world, yet this account of her age is confirmed by her blooming appearance and the freshness of her voice. She is a beauty of the genuine Saxon type, with blue eyes, a fair complexion, and a profusion of fair hair. She is above the ordinary height, stature exquisitely formed, and free and graceful in every movement. When she appeared in the chivalrous attire of the youthful *Romeo*, a burst of admiration shook the house, and it was some minutes before she was allowed to utter a sound. When, at length, her voice was heard, its rich, deep contralto tones, in a piece of spoken recitative, completed the spell wrought by her aspect. Her



THE RUNNING DOWN OF LORD ALFRED PAGET'S YACHT, "ALMA," OFF DOVER.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

first air "Si Romeo t'uccise un figlio," was sung with great simplicity and in a tone of mild and earnest expostulation; changed, in the next act, to fiery indignation, with which the youth retorts the defiance of the Caplets. In the earlier part of the opera, it will be remarked, Romeo is not all the Romeo of Shakespeare. He is the head of the Montecchi, and comports himself accordingly. It is not till the third act that the Shakespearean features of the character begin to appear. There is a powerful scene between Romeo and Tebaldo, who corresponds in some particulars with the Tybalt of Shakespeare. But in the opera Tebaldo is Romeo's rival, being the lover and kinsman of Juliet. Romeo, attacked by his rival with threats and defiance, restrains himself a while, but at length replies with equal violence. The burst of passion with which he exclaims, "Veni, io ti sprezzo!" was given in a manner which electrified the audience and called forth peals of applause. In the midst of this altercation, mournful music is heard, and Juliet's funeral procession passes over the stage. The rivals thus learn that she is dead, and their rage melts into grief. Middle Wagner's acting and singing were exquisitely pathetic. The simple exclamation, "Ella è morta!" thrilled upon every heart. In the closing scene the powers of the actress shone forth in all their lustre. She was the very Romeo of our associations; and, were she to appear as the Romeo of Shakespeare instead of the Romeo of Bellini, she would be the most perfect embodiment of our poet's beautiful conception that the stage has ever seen. Even hampered as she was by the necessity of singing feeble music, instead of giving vent to her feelings in the passionate accents which her own genius would have prompted, she succeeded in exciting as heartfelt emotions and in drawing as many tears as ever were caused by the distress of the tragic stage.

In this drama Middle Wagner's singing is thrown in some measure into the background, partly owing to the character of the music, and partly to her own transcendent powers as an actress. Even when she is singing most beautifully she does not allow us to think of her voice or her execution: we think only of the passions and feelings which she clothes in such wonderful language. We may say, however, that her voice, though essentially a contralto of immense power and volume, is also of great compass, and is capable of rising to the heights of the soprano scale. She sings in the German manner, with great simplicity and purity, and a very sparing use of florid embellishment. But to be enabled to form a due appreciation of her vocal qualities it is necessary to hear her sing the music of the great masters of her own country.

The opera, as a whole, is well performed. Reichardt has obtained great success in the character of Tebaldo, and Middle Jenny Bauer is a pleasing and interesting Juliet. The mise en scène is splendid; and in the ball scene there is a pretty divertissement, in which Marie Taglioni shows herself to be the most captivating danseuse of the day.

LOSS OF LORD ALFRED PAGET'S YACHT "ALMA."

The following extract from a letter by Lord Alfred Paget describes the loss of his yacht, and the narrow escape from drowning of his Lordship and her crew, on the night of the 4th instant:—

Last night, a little before midnight, I was on my passage from Colchester to the Isle of Wight, and was running before a light air—the wind easterly—going about three to four miles an hour. The night was beautifully clear and bright starlight. When off the South Foreland, about four miles from the lighthouse, as I was coming up the companion-ladder, I heard the men on deck shouting to a steam-boat to "Stop her!" I was on deck in an instant, and saw a steamer making straight for us at full speed. In about a couple of minutes she struck us in the starboard bow, causing the yacht to reel almost under water, and propelling us forward some distance, as, strange to say, her paddles were not stopped even when she struck us.

The shock was terrific, and when the steamer did stop and get clear it became evident that the yacht was fast sinking by the head. One of my men jumped on board the steamer, and entreated the captain to stay by our sinking vessel and send a boat to save us. His request was, after some hesitation, complied with; but in the meantime we had managed to launch our long-boat, and had just time to get into her when the yacht went down with all her sails set. Neither I nor any of the crew had time to save an article of any kind. I requested the officer in charge of the steamer's gig to take us on board and tow us to the land, but this he refused to do, saying he had despatches on board; so we had a long and hard pull against the tide, running out very strong, and at last succeeded, thank God, in getting into Dover harbour.

Had any look-out been kept on board the steamer, on so lovely and calm a night, a vessel might easily have been seen two miles off, especially one with new sails; but I am sorry to say that in too many instances these vessels, going at the rate of 12 or 14 knots an hour, altogether neglect that precaution, and many a poor fisherman is run down by them, and never heard of more.

The *Alma* was nearly 70 tons, and was only completed at the end of last year. We put our helm to port, as the law requires; but, having little more than steerage way, we could do nothing to save her.

The vessel which caused this catastrophe is the Belgian mail-steamer the *Diamant*, is the property of the Belgian Government, and performs, in turn with the English, French, and Belgian Company's steamers, the mail service between Dover and Ostend.

His Lordship may be congratulated that his own life and the lives of the crew were not lost. But it seems very strange that the officers in charge of the steam-vessel should have acted with such indifference after the catastrophe; and we should hope that the Belgian Government will afford to the noble Lord ample compensation for the loss he has sustained in having his vessel run down; at the same time that they will not overlook the total want of officerlike and humane feeling in leaving Lord Paget and the crew four miles from the land, to get there how they best might. Had the weather thickened, or the wind risen, there is no knowing what would have been the result of such conduct; and we hope the right feeling of all nations will be expressed freely on this part of the transaction, which affects the lives of tens of thousands who obtain their hard-earned living by fishing and carrying coastwise, and in their humble sphere have little opportunity of making their grievances known to the world.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The late Ascot meeting was large in point of company, but dull as regarded both its racing and its betting. Its Cup, in the absence of Fandango and Riffeman, was the most uninteresting of contests, and terminated in the triumph of a well-known licensed victualler, who threw the reins most completely to his feelings, waving his hat aloft over his head, and cheering himself right lustily, as he led his son of Alarm for inspection round the Royal enclosure. The New Stakes produced a score of runners, and Mr. Howard's pair—Goldfinch and Schiedam—each of whom cost him 460 guineas, or only about half the price which he paid for brother to Goldfinch, at Tattersall's, the Monday before, ran second and third. The class of yearlings at the Royal sale last Monday was not great, but still the seventeen averaged 160 guineas a piece, or about two guineas less than they did last June. In 1884 the average was 441 guineas, and the top price 1000 guineas, for Yellow Jack—a sum which fell to 480 guineas in 1885 for Impérieuse, and to 410 guineas for an Orlando colt in this last sale. Kingmaker represented the Baron's stock at Ascot, and it is rarely that one sees such a well-grown black two-year-old at the post, though he evidently lacks speed. Commotion, by Alarm, who was thought to be nearly the best two-year-old form out, and has been sold, it is said, for a very large sum, suffered an easy defeat this week from Tournament at Hampton; and Saucebox, who does not bear knocking about so well as he did last year, is in the market. Ten yearlings will be sold at Tattersall's on Monday; and thirty-six lots of blood stock, including the handsome Danube, on the morning of Stockbridge races. Fandango is scratched for the Goodwood; and Fazzioletto is also struck out of everything till Goodwood; and the Whitewall stable quite expect that he will win that place in the St. Leger gallery which Surplice so gallantly snatched from his dam Canzou in 1848, owing solely, as Frank Butler believed to the day of his death, to his having had his orders to "come" within the distance, instead of waiting till within a few strides from home. At present the St. Leger is a dead letter, and, as we look down the list of 184, we see none of any pretensions against him and Ellington, bar Mary Copp, Kaipyege, Vandermolen, Tilly, Cerva, and perhaps Rogerthorpe, who is said to have impressed Sam Rogers in the Derby with a notion that he will not be found wanting as a stayer. The Saraband v. Cannobio trial at Westminster is fixed for the 29th, and the matter has so annoyed some of the Jockey Club that they propose not to allow any one to turn a horse at Newmarket who doubts their decisions for the future.

The ensuing week will be a busy one in the racing world, and the Curragh will be all alive from Tuesday till Friday. Lenham is fixed for Wednesday; and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday will witness a very fair average meeting at Newcastle, where nearly £1000 is added to the stakes. The handicap weights are too low, but the committee are rewarded for their public spirit in other respects, as the 60-guinea Corporation Plate has brought them 100 guineas in one-guinea entrances. The North Derby, on Tuesday, includes Ellington (5lb. extra), Omer Pacha, Forbidden Fruit, King of the Gipsies, and Artillery; and Vedette, Kertch

Chief, Magnifier, and Blink Bonny are in the Tyro. The latter three are in the Grand Stand Stakes on the following day; and Zeta, 5 at 5lb., looks very likely for the Northumberland Plate. This mare is in the Gateshead Lottery Stakes with Manganese, Tilly, and Heir of Lynne on the Thursday, when the latter will not improbably manage the Gold Cup.

The Bibury Club Races commence on Wednesday, and are succeeded by a very full Stockbridge list on Thursday, which will, however, be sadly shorn when the starting bell rings. Shoreham, Corobus, Claret, and Lord Alfred are in one Triennial; Wentworth and Eglington in another; and the fifteen-hundred-guinea Anton and some of Scott's dark two-year-olds in a third. Astrologus, One Act, Wentworth, and Mincepie are in the Stockbridge Derby, and Ayacanora and several illustrious unknowns in the Mottisfont, while the Stewards' Plate is crammed to repletion with good games. A move will be made to Worthy Donn on the Friday, where Nougat is in one of the six races which make up the Winchester Meeting.

Among the deaths we have to note that of Mr. Burton Bindon, in his eightieth year, once the well-known proprietor of a Dublin oyster-shop. He was one of the best riders in Ireland, and kept hounds in the county Galway, whence, as The Druid informs us in "The Post and the Paddock," the best Irish wall-jumpers are supposed to come. Mr. Harry Biggs, who was well known in earlier days as the owner of Little Red Rover and other good horses, has also paid the debt of nature; and the monument to William Lillywhite, which consists of a white marble pedestal surmounted by a broken column and a wreath of flowers, is very shortly to be reared at Highgate. It is, however, to be regretted that, out of the requisite fifty guineas, only twenty-five guineas is at present collected. The accounts from the grouse are prosperous; and countless advertisements of moors, and dogs with approved noses, are beginning to dot the papers. Large fish, too, are beginning to reward the Isaak Walton everywhere—to wit, an 11lb. trout near Windsor; a 39lb. salmon on the Wye; and pikes of a "Blue Peter" size, which makes one almost afraid to bathe.

The aquatic fixtures form a magnificent array. On Monday come the Pimlico Union Club four-oar races from Putney to Barnes, and the St. Margaret's and St. John's Regatta; on Tuesday, the St. Mary's (Lambeth) Regatta and the St. George's Yacht Club Regatta (Dublin Bay); on Thursday, the Birkenhead Model Yacht Club Sailing Match and the Royal Yorkshire Yacht Club Regatta; on Thursday and Friday, the Royal Western Yacht Club (Ireland) Corinthian Matches; and on Saturday, the Royal Thames Yacht Club Sailing Match (for third and fourth class yachts), from Erith to Chapman's Head and back.

At Lord's, on Monday, sixteen Oxford University men play the United All England Eleven; on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Rugby School will be engaged there—first against the M. C. C., and then the Marlborough College; while on Thursday the M. C. C. and ground play Kent a return match at Gravesend.

HAMPTON RACES.—WEDNESDAY.

Stand Plate.—Swallowtail, 1. Westminster, 2.
Hurst Plate.—Lady Florence, 1. Usurer, 2.
Surrey and Middlesex Stakes.—Winkfield, 1. Redemption, 2.
Claremont Stakes.—Tournament, 1. Commotion, 2.
Innkeepers' Plate.—Usurer, 1.

THURSDAY.

Richmond Plate.—Englemere, 1. Dead heat with Queen Mab f. and New Brighton for the second place.
Visitors' Plate.—Mary, 1. December, 2.
Queen's Guineas.—Sirocco, 1. Astrologus, 2.
Railway Plate.—Cantrip, 1. Bacon, 2.
Hushy Plate.—Icarus, 1. Flying Dutchess, 2.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 17, 1886.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M. 18 ft. above sea level.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of the Day.	Rain in Inches.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Wet Bulb.	Evaporation.	In the Night.	In the Day.	Mean amount of Cloud (0-10).
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.								
June 11	29.925	73.3	44.2	58.2	0.000	55.3	53.9	4	4	6	2.2
" 12	29.673	64.6	55.0	57.3	0.110	55.0	54.7	8	7	9	9.5
" 13	29.632	57.4	48.1	51.9	0.214	51.0	50.0	7	8	10	10.0
" 14	29.333	63.0	45.1	50.4	0.240	48.0	48.7	8	6	8	8.2
" 15	29.775	65.8	41.0	52.8	0.000	49.4	48.1	5	6	3	3.5
" 16	29.949	65.8	40.5	54.4	0.000	53.0	49.8	5	6	5	5.7
" 17	29.618	66.1	48.0	54.5	0.000	50.4	51.0	7	5	6	6.9
Mean	29.705	64.8	45.9	54.2	0.564	51.3	50.9	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.6

The range of temperature during the week was 32° 50'.

The weather—Fine, except 12th and 13th, which were very rainy.

The direction of the wind was—on 11th, W.; became W.S.W. at 4 a.m., S.S.W. at 7 a.m., S.W. at 10 a.m.; on 12th, S.W. at 7 a.m., moved through W. and N. to E. at 10 p.m.; became N.E. at 1 p.m. on 13th, N.N.E. at 5 p.m., N.N.W. at 7 p.m., N.W. at 10 p.m.; W. at 1 a.m. on 14th, W.S.W. at 11 a.m., W. at 3 p.m., W.N.W. at 4 p.m., W. at 6 p.m.; W.N.W. at 12 a.m. on 15th, S.W. at 10 a.m., W. at 2 p.m., N.W. at 4 p.m., W.N.W. at 6 p.m.; S.W. at 8 a.m. on 16th, W.S.W. at 10 a.m., S.W. at noon, in which quarter it remained.

12th Nottingham catchfly (*Silene nutans*) in flower.

E. J. LOWE.

OPENING OF THE NEW ATHENÆUM AT BOSTON.—On Tuesday the opening of this institution was inaugurated by a déjeuner in the Assembly Rooms, and a soiree in the Corn Exchange. F. Cooke, Esq., the Mayor, occupied the chair; and was supported by Sir Charles Anderson, Bart., and the Rev. G. B. Blenkin, the Vicar. Among the guests were several ladies. A variety of toasts were drunk, including "The Health of the Members for the Borough," for which Mr. Mark Lemon returned thanks on behalf of Mr. Herbert Ingram, from whom was read a letter explaining his detention in town by his Parliamentary duties, and inclosing a subscription of £10 to the Athenæum fund. A communication was also read by the Mayor from Mr. Cabell, M.P., inclosing a cheque for ten guineas towards the furnishing fund. At the close of the déjeuner, the company adjourned to the soiree in the Corn Exchange, where upwards of 1000 guests sat down to tea. Thomas Garfit, Esq., presided; and after passing a series of resolutions the large meeting separated. Next week we shall give a fuller account of the interesting proceeding, with two Engravings of the Institution building.

A DEPUTATION from the county of Gloucester and city of Bristol on Tuesday attended on Lord Palmerston, to present a petition to her Majesty, praying for the separation of the see of Gloucester and Bristol; and a similar petition from the city of Bristol. Among the deputation were the Earl of Ellenborough, the Earl St. Germans, Lord Keddale, Lord Leigh, and Lord Elcho.

MONEY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

As the differences between this country and the United States appear to be in a fair train of settlement, notwithstanding Mr. Crumpton's dismissal, some rather extensive Bull operations have been effected in National Stocks this week, and prices generally have had an upward tendency. The supply of stock in the hands of the jobbers, from the public having purchased rather freely, has decreased, and higher prices appear to be confidently anticipated. The discount market has been tolerably well supplied with cash; yet the leading bankers are still charging 4½ for the best paper, short-dated. The fact is that a low value of money is not looked forward to, and it is argued in influential quarters that all surplus means will be speedily absorbed.

Since we last wrote the imports of bullion have amounted to £160,000 from the West Indies, 700,000 dollars from the United States (300,000 being on French account), and £175,000 from Australia. During the next two or three weeks over £700,000 in gold will be received from Sydney. As there is very little demand for the Continent, and the arrivals are mostly purchased by the Bank, a further increase in the stock of bullion may be safely calculated upon. Bar silver has realised 61½ per ounce.

The dealings in Consols on Monday were by no means extensive, yet the quotations were firmly supported. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 94½ to 94½; the New Three per Cents, 94½ to 94½; Consols for Account, 94½ to 94½; Consols, Scrip, 2½ prem; India Bonds, 10s. 6d.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 10s. prem. On Tuesday prices were rather higher, with a very firm market. Bank Stock, 217 to 218; the Three per Cents Reduced were 94½; New Three per Cents, 94½ to 95½; Long Annuities, 1885, 17½; Consols, Scrip, 3 to 2½; prem.; India Bonds, 10s. to 12s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 8s. to 10s. prem. The dealings on the following day were moderately extensive, as follows:—Bank Stock, 217 to 218; Three per Cents Reduced, 94½; Consols for Account, 94½; Consols Scrip, 3 prem; New Three per Cents, 94½ to 95½; India Bonds, 13s. prem; Exchequer Bills, 7s. to 11s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 6½. On Thursday, the funds continued steady:—The Three per Cents ex div. were 94½ to 94½; The Scrip was 3 to 3½ prem. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 94½; and the New Three per Cents, 95 to 95½. Bank Stock, 217 to 218. Exchequer Bills were very firm at 8s. to 12s. premium. Exchequer Bonds, both series, were done at 99½. Long Annuities, 1880, 35-16. India Bonds, 10s. to 13s. premium.

The dealings in the Foreign House have not been extensive. Prices, however, have been slightly on the advance. Austrian Five per Cents have realised 92½; Brazilian Five per Cents, 101; Ditto, Small, 100; Chilean Six per Cents, 105; Mexican Three per Cents, 22½; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 79; Ditto, Three per Cents, 66; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 98½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 92½; Spanish Threes per Cents, 47; Ditto New, Deferred, 25½; Turkish Six per Cents, 100½; Ditto, Four per Cents, Guaranteed, 104½; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 97; Dutch Four per Cents, 96½; Ditto, Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 63½; Granada Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 17½.

There has been a fair business doing in Joint-Stock Bank Shares, as follows:—Australasia, 93½; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 17½; London and Westminster, 49½; New South Wales, 44½; Oriental, 41½; South Australia, 33½; Union of London, 30½; Western Bank of London, 60.

Most Miscellaneous Securities have been tolerably active. Australian Agricultural have realised 30½; Canada Company's Bonds, 133; Ditto, Government Six per Cents, 113½; Crystal Palace, 2½; Ditto, Preference, 5½; General Screw Steam-ship Company, 14½; London General Omnibus, 4½; Mexican and South American, 4½; North of Europe Steam, 13½; Peel River Land and Mineral, 3½; Van Dieman's Land, 18½; Ashton and Oldham Canal Shares have marked 145; Birmingham, 22; Derby, 84; Grand Junction, 43; Leeds and Liverpool, 43½; Leicester, 49½; Loughborough, 450; Macclesfield, 51; Oxford, 103; R-gent's, 16 ex div.; Rochdale, 76; Stafford and Worcester, 420; Stourbridge, 290; Warwick and Birmingham, 45; Warwick, and Nepton, 10; Worcester and Birmingham, 20; Wilts and Berks, 4½. St. Katharine Docks Securities have been 84½; Southampton, 42; Victoria, 20½; Ditto, New, 10½.

Most Railway Shares have sold steadily, and the quotations have slightly improved. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 5; Bristol and Exeter, 89½; Caledonian, 62½; Chester and Holyhead, 16; East Anglian, 17; Eastern Counties, 104; East Lancashire, 80; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 35; Great Western, 63½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 91½; London and Blackwall, 7½; London and Brighton, 105½; London and North-Western, 103½; London and South-Western, 103½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 31; Midland, 80; Norfolk, 65; North British, 37½; North-Eastern—Berwick, 83½; Ditto, Leeds, 19½; Ditto, York, 59½; North Staffordshire, 11½; North-Western, 7; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 29½; Shropshire Union, 47½; South Devon, 14½; South-Eastern, 73½; Vale of Neath, 19½.

Lines LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—London, Tilbury, and Southend, 116½; South Staffordshire, 7½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 102; Chester and Holyhead, 16½; East Anglian, Class B, 109; Eastern Counties, No. 2, ½ prem; Ditto, New Six per Cent, 134; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 77; Great Northern Five per Cent, 110; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 103½; Great Western (Chester Shares), 17½; Ditto (Birmingham Stock), 74½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 120; Norfolk Debentures, 8½; North British, 104; North-Eastern—Berwick, 1½ dis.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 105; South Devon, 15; Stockton and Darlington, 27½.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8½; Belgian Eastern Junction, 2½; Bombay and Central India, 6½; Dutch Rhenish, 12½; Eastern of France, 37½; East Indian, 24; Ditto, Extension, B, 23½; Ditto, C, 7½; Geelong and Melbourne, 22½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 15½; Great Central of France, 20; Great Indian Peninsula, 22½; Ditto, New, 3½; Great Luxembourg Shares, 54; Great Western of Canada, 26½; Ditto, New, 8½; Lombardo Venetian, 11½; Madras, 20½; Royal Danish, 20½; Royal Swedish, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 12; Scinde, 8.

Mining Shares have been firm:—Brazilian Imperial have marked, 2½; Cobro Copper 66.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, June 16.—To-day's market was fairly supplied with English wheat, in which about an average business was transacted, at 2s. per quarter above the rates current on Monday last. There was a steady demand for foreign wheat, at an improvement in value of 2s. per quarter. Floating cargoes of grain were in request, chiefly for France and Belgium, at extreme rates. The barley trade ruled somewhat active, at fully 1s. per quarter more money. Malt sold to a moderate extent, on former terms. Oats were risk, and fully 1s. dearer. Both beans and peas advanced 1s. with an active inquiry. Flour improved 2s. per sack.

June 16.—We had a fair demand for most kinds of produce to-day, and Monday's prices were well supported.
English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 68s. to 77s.; ditto, white, 66s. to 80s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 61s. to 74s.; rye, 38s. to 40s.; grinding barley, 30s. to 38s.; distilling ditto, 32s. to 40s.; malted, ditto, 40s. to 41s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 73s. to 80s.; brown ditto, 68s. to 70s.; War, 70s. to 72s.; Lincoln, 70s. to 80s.; Cheviot, 80s. to 81s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 24s. to 26s.; potato ditto, 27s. to 30s.; Youghal and Cork black, 21s. to 24s.; ditto, white, 23s. to 26s.; tick beans, 36s. to 40s.; grey peas, 37s. to 40s.; maple, 41s. to 43s.; white, 41s. to 43s.; boilers, 43s. to 45s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 62s. to 65s.; Suffolk, 51s. to 54s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 52s. to 53s. per 280 lbs. American flour, 35s. to 41s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Most kinds of seeds move off slowly. In prices we have no change to notice.
Lined, English, crushing, 5½s. to 5½s.; Mediterranean, 5½s. to 5½s.; hempseed, 46s. to 52s. per quarter. Coriander, 20s. to 30s. per cwt. English rapeseed, 68s. to 90s. per quarter. Lined cakes, English, 111 lbs. to 112; ditto, foreign, 110 lbs. to 111 lbs.; rape cakes, 106 lbs. to 112 lbs. per ton. Canary, 41s. to 60s. per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9½d. to 10½d. of household loaf, 8½d. per lb. loaf.

Imported Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 69s. 1d.; barley, 38s. 6d.; oats, 24s. 3d.; rye, 47s. 6d.; beans, 43s. 4d.; peas, 40s. 1d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 68s. 3d.; barley, 39s. 4d.; oats, 23s. 11d.; rye, 44s. 3d.; beans, 42s. 1d.; peas, 39s. 7d.

English Grain Sold last Week.—Wheat, 140,901; barley, 4054; oats, 9289; rye, 54; beans, 4083; peas, 970 quarters.

Tea.—Our market continues to be well supplied with all kinds of tea, in which about an average business is doing at late rates. Common sound cognac 8½d. to 9d. per lb.

Sugar.—The supplies of raw sugar brought forward this week have been by no means extensive. On the whole, a full average business has been transacted in most kinds at full quotations. West India has sold at 4½s. to 4½s. 6d.; Mauritius, 39s. to 49s. 6d.; Benares, 41s. 6d. to 48s. 6d.; per cwt. Several floating cargoes have sold at very full prices. Refined woods are steady, at 50s. 6d. to 50s. per cwt. for grocery lump.

Coffee.—We have no change to notice in the value of any kind. The demand is wholly confined to small parcels.

Rice.—The stock is now over 28,000 tons. The demand is steady, and prices are well supported.

Provisions.—We have a better demand for most kinds of butter, the show of which is seasonably good, and prices have an upward tendency. The bacon market is very firm, at high rates. Hams command rather more money.

Tallow.—There is a moderate business doing in this article, at late rates. P.Y.C. on the spot, 45s. 6d. to 45s. 9d. per cwt. Town tallow, 46s. net cash; rough fat, 2s. 6½d. per 8 lbs.

Oils.—Lined oil is now worth 33s. per cwt., with an active demand. Other oils are dull. Turpentine moves off slowly—spirits at 31s. 6d. to 32s. 6d. per cwt.

Spirits.—There has been only a moderate demand for rum; prices, however, have been supported. Proof Leewards, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d.; East India, 2s. to 2s. 1d. per gallon. Brandy and British-made spirits support former terms.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, 35s. to 45s. 6d.; new ditto, 43s. 10s. to 44s. 10s.; clover ditto, 44s. 10s. to 45s. and straw, 17s. to 18s. 10s. per load.

Coals.—Carr's Barley, 16s. 6d.; Hastings's Barley, 16s. 6d.; Gosforth, 15s. 6d.; West Hartley, 15s. 6d.; Gosforth, 15s. 6d.; Eden Hall, 16s. 6d.; Haswell, 17s. 9d.; Kellou, 16s. 6d.; Whitworth, 16s. per ton.

Hops.—As the vine is progressing badly, owing to an increase in fly, the hops trade is firm at very full prices. Duty, £150,000. Mid and East Kent pockets, £12 10s. to £16 10s.; Weald of Kent, £13 5s. to £15 10s.; Sussex, £13 3s. to £15 per cwt.

Wool.—The amount of business doing in all kinds of wool is limited. Prices, however, are supported.

Potatoes.—Old potatoes are selling at from 50s. to 105s. per ton; new ditto, 9s. to 12s. per cwt.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—The supply of beasts on sale this week has increased, and all kinds have sold heavily at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. Other kinds of stock have moved off slowly, at a similar fall in value:—

Beef, from 3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; mutton, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 2d.; lamb, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 10d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; pork, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. to sink the offal.

Neigate and Leadenhall.—The trade generally has moved heavily, as follows:—

Beef, from 3s. 10d. to 4s. 10d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; lamb, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13.

WAR DEPARTMENT, JUNE 13.

BIRTHS.

On the 11th ult., at Chichester, Mrs. Frederik Freeland, of a daughter.
On the 14th inst., at Roselle, near Arr., N.B., the wife of N. Grindall Buchanan, Esq., of Knockninch, of a son.
On the 16th May, at Newcastle, Jamaica, the wife of Captain Bernard R. Shaw, 30th Regiment, of a daughter.
On the 14th inst., at Orton Longville, the Marchioness of Huntly, of a son.
On the 1st instant, at Pontgibaud, Puy de Dôme, France, the wife of John Walter Lukis, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Halfway-tree Church, Jamaica, on the 17th May, by the Rev. John L. McIntyre, brother to the bride, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Stewart, Edward Carpenter, Esq., of the Colonial Bank, to Anna Mahoney, youngest daughter of the late Rev. John McIntyre, Rector of St. James.
On the 17th inst., at Lewisham Church, by the Rev. F. S. Lea, M.A., Incumbent of Holy Trinity Church, Middle-end, late Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford, Christopher, eldest son of Mr. Horne, of New Grove, Bow-road, to Emma Diana, youngest and only surviving daughter of Mr. Beater, of 3, Dartmouth-villas, Lewisham-road.
On the 29th April, at Clifton Church, Bristol, John Henry Hirst, of Clifton, Bristol, eldest son of the late T. Hirst, Esq., of Wakefield, to Harriet Jane, second daughter of the late William H. Wyld, Esq., of Clifton.

DEATHS.

On the 5th inst., at Naples, the Lady V. S. Talbot, after a lengthened illness.
On the 9th inst., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, aged 75, Ann Mitchell, relict of Noel Thos. Smith, M.D.

NATIONAL WALLACE MEETING.

For the purpose of adopting Resolutions for the Election of a Monument to the memory of Sir William Wallace, the Scottish Hero, SIR WILLIAM WALLACE, will be held in the King's-park, Stirling, on TUESDAY, the 24th JUNE.
The Right Hon. the EARL of ELGIN and KINCARDINE, K.T., in the Chair.

Addresses in support of the Resolutions will be delivered by Noblemen and Gentlemen from various parts of the country.
The whole of the Scottish Peerage, the Lord Lieutenants and Deputy Lieutenants of Counties, the Provosts and Magistrates of Burghs, the Barons of Scotland and Nova Scotia, and the Scottish Members of Parliament, have been specially invited to be present.

The Directors of all the Railway Companies are expected to provide extra trains, and to supply Return Tickets at One Fare.
A Procession will leave the Corn Exchange, Stirling, for the place of meeting, at Two o'clock, and proceedings will commence in the Park precisely at one o'clock.
Subscription Tickets will be supplied at the entrance to the Park by the Members of the Provisional Committee, and a Marquee for receiving subscriptions will be erected on the ground. Any sum not under One Shilling will be received.
Subscriptions from those who are unable to be present at the meeting may be addressed to John Sowers, Esq., Banker, Provost of Stirling, Treasurer to the Committee.
Dinner, in the Golden Lion Hotel, at Five o'clock. Ticket (to include Wine) Eight Shillings. Those intending to dine at the hotel, to make early application for tickets to Mr. Campbell, at the Hotel. By order of the Committee.
CHARLES ROGERS, LL.D., } Joint Secretaries.
T. L. GALBRAITH, }

ELIGIBLE INVESTMENT.—An opportunity
now presents itself for the investment of money in an established undertaking of character and respectability, by which not only a very large return will be obtained for the capital invested, but the capital itself will be vastly increased. These advantages are obtainable equally by the sale or capital as by the loan. No risk or liability is incurred. No notice can be taken of applications except from principals; and a personal interview may be had on appointment, if by letter post-paid, to Mr. ARUNDELL, 26, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

TO SCHOOL ASSISTANTS.—RELIEF
BROTHERS' REGISTERS are NOW OPEN, and they request all well qualified Assistants, Ladies as well as Gentlemen, to call at once and enter their names. Office hours 10 to 4 o'clock. No charge of any kind whatever is made.—150, Aldersgate-street.

HOME EDUCATION.—In the Country.
Easy of access. A married Clergyman, who has with success taught pupils of neglected education, wishes to receive as members of his family TWO or THREE BOYS, whom he would teach with his own sons. Age preferred—seven to fourteen. Address Rev. G. C. Stephen, Peel, Isle of Man.

SEASIDE EDUCATION.—Age of admission
seven to ten. Great attention paid to the Boys' comfort and habits. Terms for English, Mathematics, Classics, French, Drawing, and Music, Sixty Guineas a year. No extras. For references, &c., apply to Rev. W. J. Payne, M.A., 3, York-terrace, Worthing.

HARROGATE.—The QUEEN, the oldest
established first-class FAMILY HOTEL in HARROGATE, stands unrivalled in situation, commanding a beautiful view of the country, and entirely enclosed within its own extensive pleasure-garden.
Extensive alterations and improvements have recently been made, by the addition of an entire New Front Wing of sixty handsome private sitting and lodging rooms; also, new Billiard and Smoking Rooms.
The Royal Sulphur-Well Water supplied in a Room in the Grounds every morning.
Cards of terms on application.
HENRY MILNER, Proprietor.

HARROGATE.—The GRANBY HOTEL
Patronised by the Nobility.—THOMAS HALL, Proprietor.

MARGATE.—Mr. F. L. SOPER respectfully
informs his Friends that he will accompany his Pupils from Town on Wednesday, July 23rd. Prospectuses and Particulars may be had on application by post, or of Messrs. Kelle Brothers, 150, Aldersgate-street.—Churchfield House, Margate, June 19th, 1886.

STEAM TO NORWAY (carrying the Royal
Mails).—NORTH OF EUROPE STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S First-class Steam Ships.
HAMBURG, Captain FAIRHURN, 700 tons, 300-horse power, OSCAR, Captain ELDER, 500 tons, 120-horse power, are appointed to leave Hull on Friday.
In order to accommodate the increasing number of tourists proceeding to the above romantic and interesting country, the Company will dispatch the above vessels every Friday for Christiansand and Christiansia.
Vessels from Hull, first-class, chief cabin, £3 10s; from London, via London and North-Western Railway, and steaming Goods and Passengers, £4 10s.
These ships have roomy and elegant accommodation for passengers, and carry experienced male and female servants.
For further particulars and plans of cabins apply at the Company's Office, 81, King William-street, London; or to Messrs. T. Wilson, Sons, and Co., Hull.
W. S. ANDREWS, Managing Director.

STEAM from HULL and GRIMSBY to
GOTTENBURG.—REDUCED FARES.—The NORTH OF EUROPE STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S first-class and swift Steamers, carrying the Royal Mails, are dispatched from Hull every Friday night, calling at Grimsby for passengers, mails, &c., arriving from London at four o'clock Saturday morning. Passengers can be booked through by the Mail Train leaving King's-cross 9.30 p.m. on Friday, and can embark at Grimsby. Fares, from Hull or Grimsby, £3; from London, via Grimsby, first-class and chief cabin, £4.
W. S. ANDREWS, Managing Director.

NORTH OF EUROPE STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY'S Special and Direct Service to St. Petersburg and Baltic Ports, by first-class Steam-ships, conveying Goods and Passengers by the Royal Mail, and by the Tonnage and Flensburg, thereby saving 300 miles of sea navigation, are dispatched as follows from Irongate-wharf, Tower:—
Weekly. Single. Return.
For St. Petersburg, June 27th, July 4th and 11th, 7 7 13 0
Copenhagen ditto 3 0 5 0
Return ditto 4 4 7 0
Tonnage ditto 2 0 3 10
Flensburg ditto 2 5 4 0
For Danzig and Königsberg, July 4th and 11th, 5 5 8 10
Children and Servants Half-fares.
£70 Season Excursion Tickets entitle the holder to travel (first-class) by any of the Company's Ships, and on the Royal Danish Railway during the season. Return Tickets are available for Two Months.
For further particulars, with reference to Passengers, apply to the Passenger Superintendent, at the Company's Office, 81, King William-street, London; and for Goods, &c., for Denmark and Sweden, to Mr. C. Müller Muscovy-court, Tower-hill; for St. Petersburg and all other Baltic ports, to Messrs. C. Hoffmann and Co., 12, Billiter-lane, Oxford-street. Passengers and Parcels are also booked by Mr. J. C. Padwick, 314A, Oxford-street. W. S. ANDREWS, Managing Director.

NORTH OF EUROPE STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY'S first-class Steamers leave Grimsby for Hamburg every Saturday, and Grimsby for Tonnage, Friday, the 27th, and every alternate Friday. Fares £1 and £2.
W. S. ANDREWS, Managing Director.

PALE INDIA ALE and STOUT, 4s. 6d. per
Dozen Quarts; 2s. 9d. per Dozen Pints. Scotch Ale, 5s. 6d. per Dozen Quarts. These Beers are recommended by the Faculty, being the pure extract of malt and hops only. Pale Ale and Porter for Exportation.—WOOD and WATSON, 15, Clement-lane, City.

SISAL CIGARS! at GOODRICH'S Cigar
Tobacco, and Snuff Stores (Established 1780), 497, Oxford-street, London (near Soho-square). Box containing 14 fine Sisal Cigars, for 1s. 9d.; post-free, 25 stamps. 10 boxes, containing 109, 2s. 6d. None are genuine unless signed "H. N. Goo drich & Co."

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—
Mlle. PICCOLLOMINI.—Grand Night, on THURSDAY next, JUNE 24, 1886, when will be presented a favourite Opera, in which Mlle. Piccolomini will appear. On FRIDAY next, JUNE 25, Mlle. Piccolomini will perform the BENEFIT of Mlle. MARIE TAGLIANI, whom will be performed Donizetti's Opera LA FIGLIA DEL REGGIMENTO. Maria, Mlle. Piccolomini. With a Divertissement, entitled LA BOUTEILLE, in which Mlle. Marie Tagliani will appear.—Applaud at Boxes, Stalls, and Tickets to be made at the Box-office of the Theatre, Colonnade, Haymarket.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—On MON-
DAY and during the Week will be presented Shakespeare's Play of THE WINTER'S TALE; Leontes, by Mr. C. Keen; Hermione by Mrs. C. Keen. Preceded by A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR.

DELPHI THEATRE.—Great Hit.—
A FLYING DUTCHMAN every Evening.—Madame Celeste, Mr. B. Webster, Mr. W. Light (first time at second price).—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, Like and Unlike. Wednesday and Saturday, A Bottle of Smoke, and other Entertainments.—Next Week a New and Original Adelphi Drama called JOSEPH CHIAVIGNI, or Under my Thumb; in which Mr. B. Webster and Madame Celeste will perform.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—
Monday and Tuesday, the Comedy of "Single Life." After which, Perea Nona and the Spanish Dancers. With (by desire) "Grimsbaw, Hagshaw, and Bradshaw." On Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "My Wife's Daughter," with Miss Blanche Fane in "The Little Treasure," the Spanish Dancers, and the new Farce of "Rights and Wrongs of Woman."

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—
Mr. WILLIAM COOKE has the honour to announce TWO GRAND FASHIONABLE MORNING PERFORMANCES (under high patronage) MONDAY, JUNE 23, and MONDAY, JUNE 24, commencing at Two o'clock precisely. Arrival of Monsieur Desarail's celebrated Parisian couple DOUG and MONKEYS, who will appear in their wonderful performances, as represented before Her Majesty by Royal command at Osborne in September last, on each of the Morning Entertainments, and also every Evening on and after the 23rd instant. Early application particularly recommended. Box-office open daily from 11 till 4.

STANDARD THEATRE.—LAST NIGHTS
of the WIZARD, Professor ANDERSON.—It is respectfully announced that, although the audience of the Standard Theatre continue to be the largest ever known within its walls, and the popularity of the Great Wizard of the North increases at every representation, previous arrangements render it necessary that his LAST APPEARANCE at the East End of London should occur in a few days. Those who have not seen MAGIC and MYSTERY, in Twelve Acts and Fifty Scenes—who may think it not to be sufficiently attractive, or who may have been told that it is not worth attending to these facts.—Fact 1. Professor Anderson has appeared at the Standard Theatre every night for four weeks, in the warmest and worst theatrical season of the year. Fact 2. The house has been better attended every night; the audience of one night ratifying the verdict passed by that of the preceding evening. Fact 3. Those who have been here have come again. Those who brought their wives with them the first time brought their whole families the second. Fact 4. Never before was there so much laughter or so much applause within the walls of the Standard. Fact 5. The audiences have been the most fashionable ever assembled at the East of London. Fact 6. In the first week there were 18,271 persons; in the second, 20,212 persons; in the third, 21,523 persons; in the fourth, 22,999 persons; in the fifth, 118,485 persons; in one month, 747,770. (The Great Fact) Magic, Mystery, and Money have gone together; and the Wizard's bankers work day and night to count the gold and silver which comes from the Standard. With these facts before you prearrange no longer. Go to the Standard at once! MAGIC and MYSTERY Every Evening, with New Tricks—New Apparatus—New Wonders—New Mysteries. Doors open at Seven o'clock, commence at Half-past; Lower Circle, in Upper Circle, 9d. Pit, 6d. Private Boxes at various prices. The Great National Standard Theatre, Shoreditch.

ROYAL GARDENS, CREMORNE.—Daily
on View (Admission, One Shilling), from Ten till Dusk, the GREAT AMERICAN FLORAL EXHIBITION, visited during the past week by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, the Prince of Prussia, the Princess Royal, H.R.H. the Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary, and the leading members of the Nobility. Its extent, variety, and magnificence entitle it to take its stand among the fashionable features of the season. The amusements at Cremorne are, if possible, more attractive than ever, commencing at Three o'clock each afternoon; from which hour until the close an unceasing round of entertainments delight the visitor. Saturday next, June 21, Grand Floral Fête and Musical Concert (in which Fico, the celebrated Burlesque Minstrel, will appear), in Aid of the Funds of the Royal St. Ann's Society.—Tickets at this occasion 2s. 6d. each; admission, after six o'clock, at the usual charge. The Band plays selections on Sunday, commencing at Four.—Admission free. Table d'Hôte at Six, 2s. 6d. each.

CANTERBURY HALL, Westminster-road.—
The celebrated HUNGARIAN BAND, under the direction of Herr Kolodzy, will PERFORM EVERY EVENING at Nine and Eleven o'clock, in addition to the usual Vocal Entertainment.—Suppers, &c., until Twelve o'clock.

FRENCH EXHIBITION.—The THIRD
ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS by Modern Artists of the FRENCH SCHOOL is NOW OPEN at the GALLERY, 111, FALMALL. Admission, One Shilling; Season Tickets, Five Shillings; Catalogue, Sixpence. H. FRODSHAM, Secretary.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER
COLOURS.—THE FIFTH-BIENNIAL ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at the Gallery, FALMALL, EAST (close to Trafalgar-square), from Nine till Dusk. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. JOSEPH J. JERKINS, Secretary.

ROYAL PANOPTICON, Leicester-square,
will shortly close for extensive alterations.—Last Week of the Electric Light, at 7.30. The Spanish Minstrel, at 8.15; Dionysus, Central American, at 9.15. Admission, 1s.; Children and Schools half-price.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONTE BLANC,
HOLLAND, UP THE RHINE, and PARIS, is NOW OPEN every evening (except Saturday) at 8 o'clock. Stalls, 1s.; 4, without any extra charge, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 8 o'clock.—EGYPTIAN HALL.

W. S. WOODIN'S OLIO OF ODDITIES,
with a New Loco-Joko Lyric, OFF BY THE TRAIN, EVERY EVENING at Eight, at the POLYGRAPHIC HALL, King William-street, Strand. Box-office open from Eleven to Five. Morning Performance every Saturday, at Two o'clock.

MISS P. HORTON'S POPULAR ILLU-
STRATIONS.—Mr. and Mrs. T. GERMAN REED will give their NEW ENTERTAINMENT, consisting of Musical and Characteristic Illustrations, introducing a variety of amusing and interesting scenes from real life, with English, French, and Italian songs, EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at the ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, commencing at Eight o'clock, and terminating at a quarter-past Ten. Price of admission, 2s., 1s. Stalls, 3s., which can be secured at the Gallery during the day. A Morning Performance every Saturday at Three o'clock, when the Free List will be suspended. No Performance on Sunday Evenings.

MUSICAL UNION.—DIRECTORS' GRAND
MATINEE, TUESDAY, JUNE 24. To commence at Three; doors open at Half-past Two.—Quartet in G, No. 87.—Haydn; Duo, Piano and Violoncello, in D, Op. 93.—Mendelssohn; Septet in E flat, Op. 20.—Beethoven. First Violin, Signor; Violoncello, Piatini; Pianiste, Mme. Schumann (her last time); Violoncello, Viardot, who will be accompanied by Mme. Schumann in Schubert's song, "The Bird King." Solos by Chopin and Thalberg, by Signor Andreoli, his first time. All free admissions suspended, non-members' tickets excepted. Additional accommodation will be provided for visitors. For further particulars vide Programme. J. ELLA, Director.

ORCHESTRAL UNION.—HANOVER-
SQUARE ROOMS.—The LAST CONCERT of the Season will take place on SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 28. Beethoven's Grand Choral Symphony will be given. Vocalists: Mlle. Krall and Miss Dolby. Piano, Miss Arabella Goddard. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.—Tickets, 10s. and 5s., to be had only of Mr. Ollivier, 19, Old Bond-street.

MR. HENRY BOHRE'S GRAND
EVENING CONCERT, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on FRIDAY, June 27, at Half-past Eight o'clock. Vocalists—Madame Viardot and Reichardt; Pianist—Miss Dolby. Violoncello, Mr. Henry Bohrer; violin, Herr Ernst; the Orchestral Union, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Mellon. Pianist accompanist, Mr. Osborne. Numbered stalls 1s. 6d. each; tickets, 7s. each—to be obtained of Mr. Henry Bohrer, 71, Welbeck-street; and at the principal music warehouses.

HERR CARL DEICHMANN'S ANNUAL
CONCERT at WILLIS'S ROOMS, on THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 26, 1886, at 8 o'clock precisely. Vocalists—Mlle. Krall, 3115, Matthei's Harp, Mrs. Schabach, and Herr Rokitanski. Pianist, Mme. Schumann. Violoncello, Signor Andreoli; violin, Mlle. Krall; piano, Mme. Schumann. Conductor, Mlle. Krall. Tickets 7s. each, to be had at the principal music warehouses, and of Herr Carl Deichmann, 15, Somerset-street, Portman-square.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

MADAME CLARA SCHUMANN and Miss
ARABELLA GODDARD (Duet and Solo), at W. H. HOLMES'S PIANOFORTE CONCERT, WEDNESDAY MORNING, July 2, Hanover-square Rooms. Programmes forwarded to any part. Tickets, 6s. (reserved), only of W. H. Holmes, 38, Beaumont-street, Marylebone.

MR. BOLEYNE REEVES' SOIREE
MUSICAL.—On TUESDAY, JUNE 24th, by the kind permission of Mrs. Warner, at 49, Grosvenor-place, at Nine o'clock precisely. Vocalists—Mlle. Krall (from the Royal Opera, Dresden), Mlle. Corelli, and Miss Lascelles; Signor Maras and Signor Moudar. Instrumentalists—Pianoforte, Signor Gilch and Herr Tesco; Harp, Mr. Boleyne Reeves; cello, Signor Giulio Rondelli. Conductors—Signor C. Campa, Herr Lehmann, and Herr Wilhelm Wenz. Tickets to be had of A. Dixon and Co., 210, Regent-street; or W. Ollivier, 19, Old Bond-street; the principal Musicallars; and of Mr. Reeves, 37, Queen Anne-street, Cavendish square.

HARMONIUMS.—CRAMER, BEALE, and
CO. are the Agents for ALEXANDRE'S Patent Model HARMONIUM, with Expression by the Hand, varying in price from 10 to 65 Guineas.—201, Regent-street.

PIANOFORTES.—CRAMER, BEALE, and
CO. have the best of every description, by Erard, Broadwood, and Collard. New and Secondhand, for Sale or Hire.—201, Regent-street.

MUSICAL-BOX REPOSITORY, 32, Lud-
gate-street (opposite Everington's). London.—WALES and MACULUCH are direct Importers of Nicole Fibre's celebrated MUSICAL BOXES, with playing, with specially selected brilliancy of tone, the best Popular, Operatic, and Sacred Music. Large sizes, four airs, 4s.; six, 4s. 6d.; eight, 5s.; twelve airs, 12s. 6d. Sound-boxes, two tunes, 14s. 6d. and 18s.; three, 30s.; four tunes, 40s. Catalogue of tunes, &c., gratis, and post-free, on application.

D'ALMAINE and CO'S PIANOFORTES,
25 Guineas each.—D'Almaigne and Co., 20, Soho-square (established 1785), submit for inspection a large and varied STOCK of their ROYAL PIANOFORTES, at 25 guineas each, which, from the combination of elegance with economy, the high quality of the materials employed, the increasing demand for all branches of the workmanship, have obtained the highest reputation, not only in Great Britain, but throughout the whole civilised world. Every instrument warranted.—D'Almaigne and Co., 20, Soho-square.

HARMONIUMS at CHAPPELL'S.—The
HARMONIUM by ALEXANDRE is the only instrument of the kind that remains in tune; from the simplicity of its construction it is but slightly affected by changes of weather, and is alike calculated for the Church, Chapel, School, or Drawing-room.
No. 1. In oak case, one stop, 5 octaves, 10 guineas.
2. In mahogany case, one stop, 5 octaves, 12 guineas.
3. In oak case, 3 stops, 15 guineas; rosewood, 16 guineas.
4. With five stops—oak, 22 guineas; rosewood, 23 guineas.
5. Eight stops—oak, 25 guineas; rosewood, 26 guineas.
6. Twelve stops, oak or rosewood, 35 guineas.
7. One stop, and percussion action, in oak, 16 guineas.
8. Three stops, and percussion action, in rosewood, 20 guineas.
9. Eight stops, percussion action, oak or rosewood, 32 guineas.
10. Twelve stops, percussion action, in oak, 40 guineas.
11. Twelve stops, percussion action, large size, in rosewood, 45 guineas.
12. The new patent model—16 stops, percussion action, expression &c., in mahogany, &c., the most perfect Harmonium that can be made, in handsome oak or rosewood case, 55 guineas.
Full descriptive lists on application.
CHAPPELL, 50, New Bond-street.

GETZMANN'S PIANOFORTES for HIRE,
with option of Purchase.—The most economical and judicious mode of obtaining a really good Pianoforte is to HIRE one (with the option of purchasing it, if approved) of Thomas Getzmann and Co., 32, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square.

AT Mr. MECH'S Establishments, 112,
Regent-street; 4, Lendenhall-street; and Crystal Palace, at exhibited the finest specimens of British Manufactures in DRESSING-CASES, Work-boxes, Writing-cases, Dressing-bags, and other articles of utility or luxury, suitable for presentation. A separate department for Papier-mâché Manufactures and Bagatelle Tables, Table Cutlery, Razors, Souvenirs, Luncheon, Strops, Paste, &c. Shipping orders executed. Same prices charged at all the establishments.

VERY ELEGANT STRIPED and BROCA-
TELLE ROBES at SHEATH'S, 264, Regent-street.
Full-length Dresses, 3s. 4d. and 4s. 6d.
The richest Moiré Antiques, 3s. 4d. and 4s. 6d.
Excellent Black ditto, from 3s.
Patterns sent to any part.—Address, W. W. SHEATH, 264, Regent-street, London.

BEAUTIFUL SUMMER DRESSES at W.
SHEATH'S, 264, Regent-street.
Printed and Satin Striped Barges, from 1 guinea.
East-coast Muslin, from 8s.
1000 yards Broch-Grenadines, all at 12d. per yard.
10,000 yards Gentel Printed Muslin (fast colours), 4d. and 6d. per yard.
Patterns forwarded to any part.—Address, W. W. SHEATH, 264, Regent-street, London.

RICH FLOUNCED SILK ROBES at
SHEATH'S, 264, Regent-street.
Check and Stripes, 6s.
Cheese Ditto, 3s. 4d. and 4s. 6d.
The richest Qualities, 4s. 4d. to 7s. 6d.
Each Dress contains about 15 yards, wide width.
Patterns sent per post. Address, W. W. Sheath, 264, Regent-street.

WEDDING, DINNER, and MORNING
SILKS.—W. W. SHEATH, 264, Regent-street, has the honour of informing Ladies that he has just received from Paris a choice selection of Flounced Silk Robes, Black and Moiré Antiques, very elegant Striped and Brocaded Robes, considerably under value. Patterns sent for inspection to any part. Address, W. W. Sheath, 264, Regent-street, London.

EXTRAORDINARY DISPLAY of
FLOUNCED SILK ROBES at STAGG and MANTLE'S.
The attention of Ladies is invited to the Largest and Cheapest Stock of Flounced Silk Robes ever submitted to the Public.
N.B. As this is not an ordinary lot, an early purchase is recommended.
STAGG and MANTLE, Leicester-square and Leicester-street.

SUPERIOR BLACK SILKS
at PETER ROBINSON'S Mourning Establishment.
Silks, in every make, from 1 to 5 guineas.
Flounced Silk Skirts from 5s. to 7 guineas.
A beautiful variety of Mourning Barges and Muslins.
Mantles and Millinery unusually attractive, at very moderate prices.
Patterns free.
PETER ROBINSON, 103, Oxford-street.

THE BAREGE PARAMATTA,
New Material for Mourning.
PETER ROBINSON'S attention is directed to producing quite a new material in Black suitable for Summer Mourning. It is very light wear, exceedingly durable, a permanent black, and moderate in price; also the CRAPE BALZARINE.
So much admired for its durability and moderate price, and warranted to stand the Sea Air.
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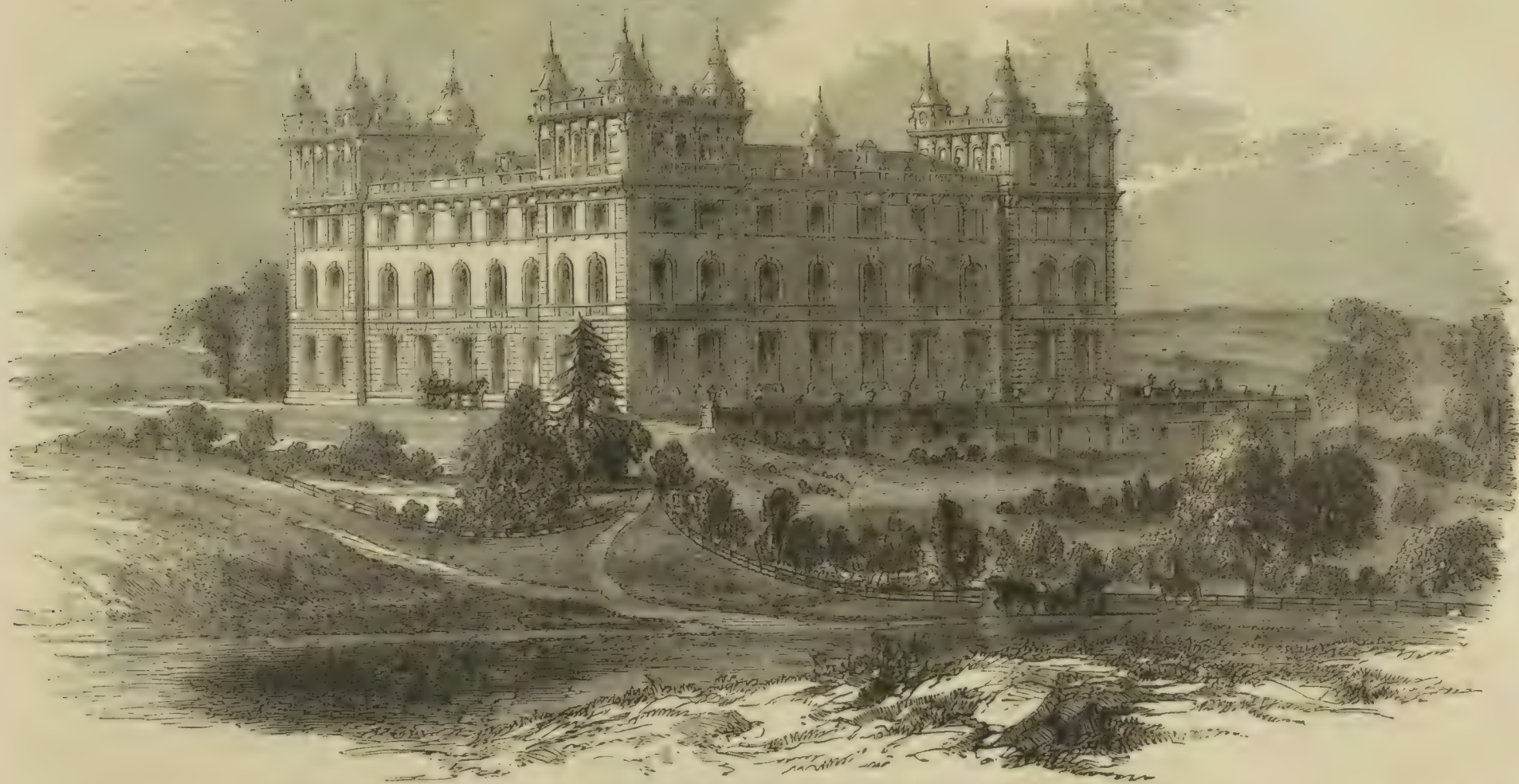
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A TREATISE on the CURE of STAMMER-
ING, with a Notice of the Life of the late Thomas Hunt;



THE INUNDATION AT LYONS—SKETCHED BY GUSTAVE DORE.—(SEE PAGE 674)



ILKLEY WELLS HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT.

LAUNCH OF THE "TORINO."

On the 21st of the last month this noble steam-ship, the last of four vessels built by Messrs. C. Mare and Co. for the Genoese Transatlantic Navigation Company, was launched from their yard at Blackwall. Since the first of these vessels, the *Victor Emanuele*, was built, much advance has been made in the decoration and internal accommodation of screw steam-ships, and these advantages have been so fully carried out in this vessel as to render the *Torino*, both in build, tonnage, capacity, and internal comfort, perhaps the most perfect steam-propelled vessel afloat.

There was an immense concourse of spectators to witness the interesting event, and the ceremony of naming the *Torino* was performed by Mdme. Petroni.

All the vessels of this company have been built and fitted out under the immediate superintendence of Captain John Ford, lately connected with the General Screw Shipping Company, and are giving the greatest satisfaction for every excellent quality.

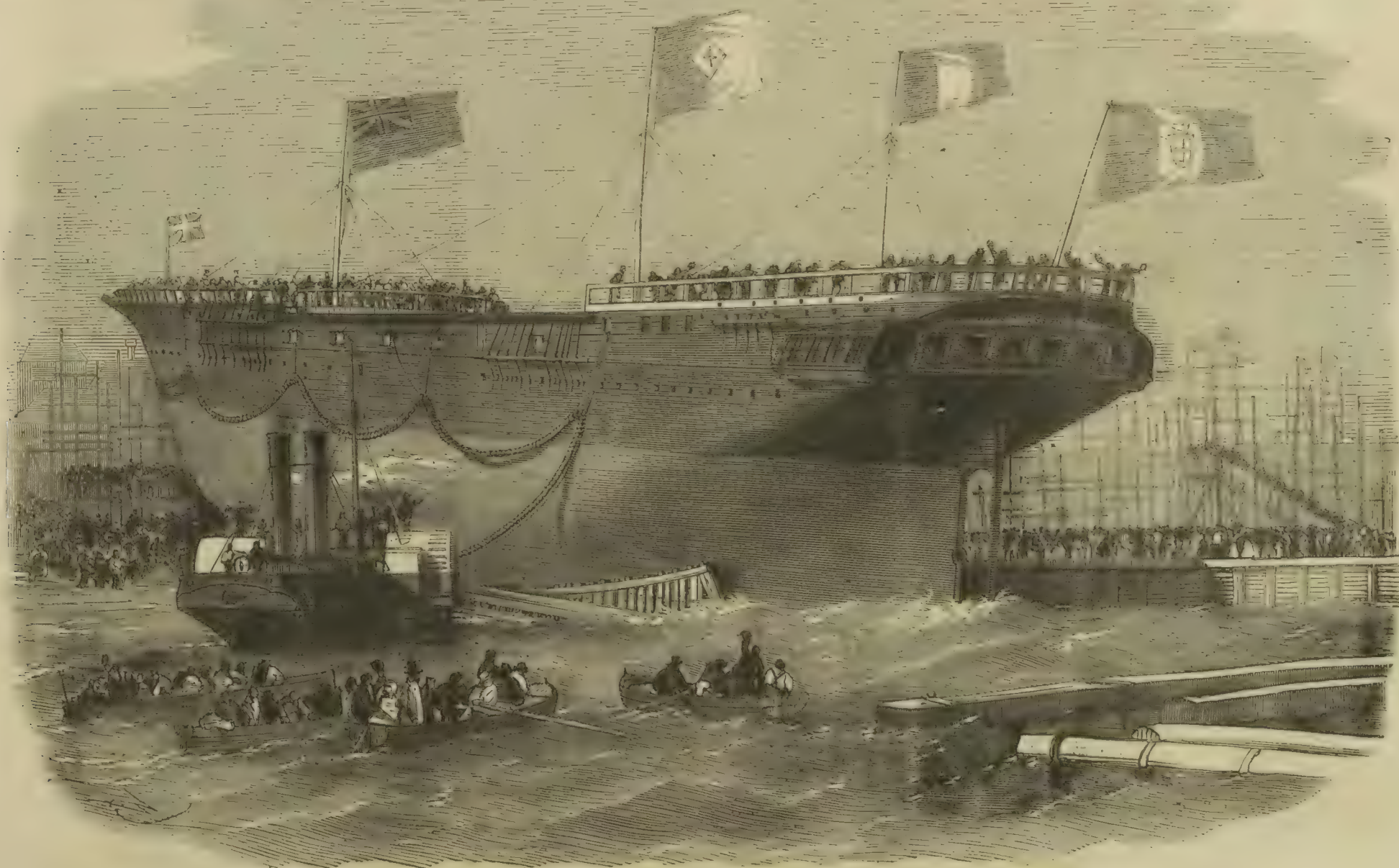
The *Torino* is the sister ship to the *Genova*, launched about two months back at the same place. These vessels have all been designed and built by Mr. James Ash, and reflect the greatest credit on the abilities of that gentleman. She is nearly 2000 tons burden, and 300-horse power; 263 feet 4 inches long between the perpendiculars; 286 feet over all; 38 feet beam, and 27 feet depth of hold. Her engines are by Messrs. Maudslay and Co.

ILKLEY WELLS HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT AND HOTEL.

THE village of Ilkley, in Wharfedale, Yorkshire, has long been celebrated for its fine scenery, its invigorating air and the purity of its water, and is the resort of invalids from all parts of the country, but more especially the inhabitants of the large northern towns. Amongst the many noted "Dales" of Yorkshire, the valley of the Wharfe stands pre-eminent for the wild grandeur of its upper course, and the extended and fertile vale

into which it gradually expands. After passing under the lofty Crag of Kilnsey, skirting Barden Tower, forcing its impetuous way through the rude and massive rocks which form the ineffectual barrier of Bolton Strid, and winding amidst the luxuriant woods and fields where stand the ruins of the celebrated Bolton Priory, the Wharfe at length reaches the picturesque village of Ilkley (the *Olkana* of the Romans). The southern side of the valley is here bounded by the lofty range of rocky hills called Rombalds or Rumbles Moor, from which gushes, in never-failing force, the spring of pure cold water for which Ilkley is famed, and which from an early period has attracted its summer votaries and contributed to enhance the well-deserved reputation of this delightful place, the invigorating effects of a plunge in the "Old Wells" having been known and appreciated long before the name of hydropathy was heard.

Attracted by the romantic beauty of the situation, the bracing mountain air, the celebrity of the water, and the fact that Wharfedale having been an original seat of Hydropathy in this country, had, by many years



LAUNCH OF THE "TORINO," AT BLACKWALL.

experience, proved itself to be particularly propitious to the Water Cure, a company of gentlemen resolved on erecting a first-class establishment in the vicinity of, and to be supplied from, this famous spring. They accordingly purchased an estate on the face of the hill, immediately abutting upon the Moors, obtained the control of the "Old Well," and erected a building, which, in point of architectural design, in convenience of arrangements, in the comforts of accommodation, and in the charming and extended views it commands, is unsurpassed by any establishment of its class in the kingdom.

The house is situated at a considerable elevation, commanding extensive and picturesque views in all directions. The grounds, which have been very tastefully laid out by Mr. Major, of Knosholme, near Leeds, are skirted by Rombold's Moor on one side; whilst on the other they join the cultivated land surrounding the small but charming village of Ilkley. The building has been erected from the designs of Mr. Cuthbert Brodick, architect, of Leeds and Hull. It is in the Italian palazzo style of architecture, and built of stone from the adjoining moors. The external appearance, with its four towers and spacious terraces, has a remarkably fine effect, while the absence of the usual accessory outbuildings shows the unbroken completeness of the design from whatever point of view it is seen. The space inclosed by the terrace walls has been appropriated to the offices; and thus an interrupted view of the beautiful surrounding scenery is obtained from every part of the building.

The internal arrangements are seen at once upon entering, and are exceedingly simple. The ground plan is a square, with a space in the centre, in Italian buildings appropriated to a courtyard, but here it is covered in, and forms the billiard-room, library, and manager's offices. Around this central part runs an elegant spacious corridor, lighted by twelve stained glass windows, and from this the principal rooms are entered.

The dining-room is the largest apartment in the building, and will conveniently dine 100 guests. There are also two large drawing-rooms, coffee-room, and about a dozen sitting-rooms, all on the ground-floor. On the upper-floor are two smaller drawing-rooms, eighty-seven bed-rooms, and six bath-rooms. Gas-works are in course of erection in Ilkley, to supply both the village and the establishment. The contractors were Messrs.

Pickard and Ogden, of Bradford; and Mr. Chippendale, of Otley, has fitted up the cooking apparatus and is superintending the works connected with the gas supply. The furniture has been supplied by Messrs. Constantine and Co., of Leeds; Mr. Mills, of Bradford; and Messrs. Roberts and Co., of Leeds.

Dr. Hisehanek, formerly of Vienna, is the resident physician at the establishment. He is, we believe, one of the oldest practitioners of the system in England, and his name is well known in connection with hydropathy. The supply of water for the hydropathic treatment is obtained from the spring on the moor which has so long rendered Ilkley famous, and made it the resort of invalids.

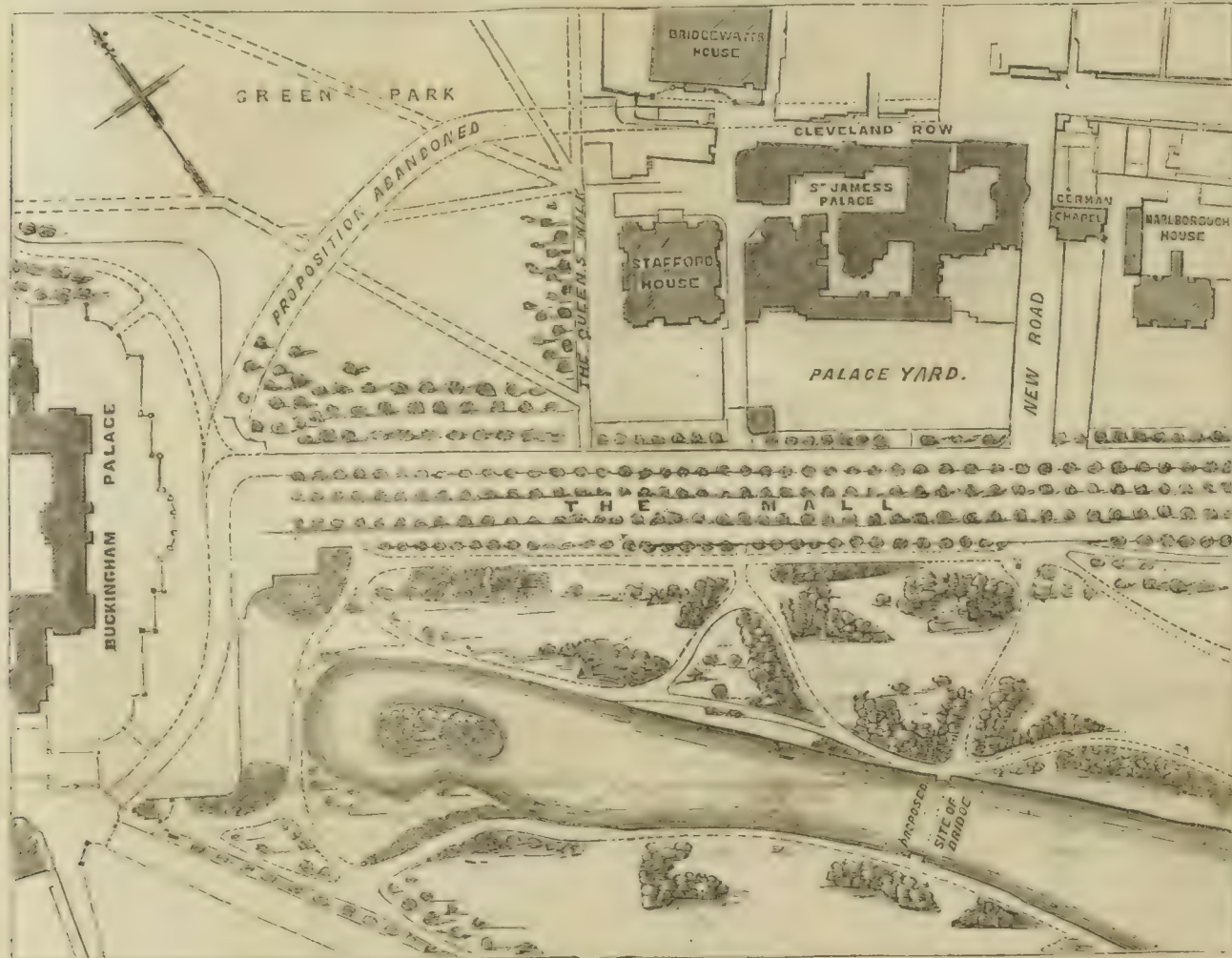
Besides the reception of patients, the new establishment affords ample accommodation for those who seek only pleasure and relaxation.

The tourist and the artist may here find ample employment. Bolton Abbey, with its magnificent woods; the splendid rock scenery of Malham, Goodale, and Brimham; together with those strange natural phenomena the caves of Clapham, Yordas, and Weathercote, are all within easy reach by road or rail; whilst the immediate neighbourhood of Ilkley abounds in scenery that will charm the pedestrian, whether he chooses on the one hand the wild and rocky pathways which ascend the moor, or on the other the rural and wooded margin of the Wharfe. Excellent trout-fishing may be obtained at Ilkley, and shooting in the season.

The establishment was opened on Wednesday, the 28th ult., when a company of about 150 partook of an elegant and abundant collation provided in the spacious dining room. As the valley of the Wharfe was the original seat of hydropathy in this country, it is reasonable to expect that there this modern branch of therapeutics still finds its most able and skilful practitioners.

NEW OPENING INTO ST. JAMES'S-PARK.

In order that our readers may have the opportunity of understanding this question, we have engraved those portions of the Plan appended to the Report of the Parliamentary Committee on the subject which will enable them to do so. There has been some misapprehension in the public mind on this subject, and therefore, to make the question intelligible,



PLAN OF THE NEW OPENING INTO ST. JAMES'S-PARK.

we must begin at the beginning. As our readers well know, all the entrances to the park are accessible to foot passengers; and with the exception, perhaps, of a foot-bridge across the water, on the site of the old Pagoda-bridge, nothing could be well added for their accommodation. For persons in private carriages very little if anything appeared to be wanted, for access to Pall-mall was always permitted to them through the Stable-yard; and, once in Pall-mall, the privilege of the *entrée*, the drive along the Mall and out at the Horse Guards, is of really little importance.

The only real inconvenience, therefore, was that any one in a cab or hired carriage who desired to pass from Piccadilly to Pall-mall was obliged to go a long way round. The facilities granted to hired carriages a few years since having been suddenly stopped in the autumn of last year, much grumbling followed. Soon after the public were alarmed by a row of scaffold-poles appearing across the park, and it was ascertained that a contract was positively making or made for a new road and bridge cutting the park and the ornamental water in two. The press was roused, and (evidently by arrangement) Sir John Shelley, on the part of his constituents, addressed a letter to Sir Benjamin Hall, who replied that he was acting under the direction of the Home Secretary, Sir George Grey.

Everything thus remained *statu quo* until Parliament met, when Sir Benjamin Hall submitted plans for the improvement of the park, as they were called, and obtained the appointment of a Select Committee. That Committee was constituted as follows, and their first meeting was on the 3rd March:—

Lune, 25th die Februarii, 1856.—Ordered, that a Select Committee be appointed to consider the best means of communication between those parts of the metropolis which lie north of St. James's-park and those parts which lie south and south-west thereof, and to report thereupon to the House. Ordered, that the paper presented on 18th February be referred to the said Committee.

Martis, 26th die Februarii, 1856.—Committee nominated of Sir Benjamin Hall, Lord John Manners, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Disraeli, Lord Robert Grosvenor, Lord Hotham, Sir Joseph Paxton, Mr. Stephenson, Sir John Shelley, Mr. Hutchins, Colonel Boldero, Mr. Drummond, Mr. Stuart Wortley, Colonel Wilson Patten, Mr. Milnes.

On the 7th they reported that they had considered two plans, viz:—

One, for a road from Marlborough-house over the site of the German Chapel, then by a road and bridge of three arches, fifty feet wide, across the park to Bird-cage-walk, where it terminated.

Secondly, for a line in continuation of Pall-mall, through Lord Sidney's house, into the Green-park, and round to the front of the Palace. (This road is shown in our Map.)

Thirdly, the Commissioners also considered a suggestion for a road into the park at the Duke of York's Column, and another for a road into the park near Charing-cross.

The cost of the first scheme was estimated at £20,000 for the road, &c., and £2800 for the bridge.

The cost of the second was estimated at £163,250.

The third was estimated at £25,800.

The divisions in the Committee were numerous and somewhat discordant; but they ended thus:—They unanimously refused a road-bridge across the park; but they recommended a foot-bridge, at a cost of £2800. They agreed to the road into the park over the site of the German Chapel, at £21,900, by a majority of eight to three; Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Drummond voting in the minority. They negatived the road continuing Pall-mall westward; but they agreed to the road by the Duke of York's column. The latter proposition was, however, subsequently abandoned.

done in the House, and, therefore, the whole of these extensive schemes ended in a recommendation to make a road about 500 feet long at a cost of £21,900, and to build a foot-bridge of eighteen iron piles, with a flat iron beam, across the ornamental water in the park! These projects were opposed by Lord Robert Grosvenor, but principally by Mr. Tite, M.P. for Bath, who resisted the first as a foolish waste of public money, and as destroying a very curious and beautiful specimen of the architecture of Inigo Jones, called the German Chapel, and used as a place of worship for the foreign Ambassadors, the Aitachés, and servants of the Palace; and he opposed the second as utterly inconsistent with good taste. Admitting, however, the avowed necessity of the communication into Pall-mall, he proposed that the road into the park should be effected by an improvement of the present communication at the west end of the Palace, simply by cutting off a piece of the garden of St. James's Palace, about 170 feet by 50 feet; and he further urged that, if a foot-bridge across the ornamental water were to be determined upon, it should only be done by a suspension-bridge. This road we have shown upon the plan, and the bridge will occupy the site of the old pagoda-bridge. On a division the vote of £21,900 for the road, and £2800 for the bridge, were negatived by a large majority. On Friday last the Government, however, having adopted the suggestions of Mr. Tite, introduced a supplemental vote of £4500 for the road, as shown in the plan, and £3500 for a suspension-bridge. The largeness of the former sum led to some discussion, but it was explained that it included the inclosure of a large piece of land to be given to the gardens of Marlborough House, expensive railings and gates across the Ambassadors' Court, and other items not necessary to the road itself. This estimate was introduced by Lord Palmerston, who took the matter out of the hands of Sir Benjamin Hall, and it passed without a division. There was no discussion about the bridge, but it was opposed, and on a division carried by a large majority. Our readers would have fancied this would have finished this discussion; but it was not so, for Lord Elcho gave notice of a motion to prevent the construction of the bridge on bringing up the report. On Monday evening this question came to issue, Lord Elcho and Sir Joseph Paxton opposing the bridge as a probable disfigurement of the park; Lord Palmerston and Mr. Tite being of opinion that, if carefully executed, it would not have that effect; but the latter did not admit the proved necessity of such a communication, as he had presented a petition numerously signed by the inhabitants of the surrounding district against it. On a division the construction of the bridge was determined upon by a narrow majority. In our opinion we cannot but congratulate the public upon both improvements.

A REBELLION IN HAYTI.—The *Boston Traveller* of the 2nd June publishes extracts from a letter bearing date Aux Cayes, Hayti, May 10, which states that a formidable insurrection had broken out in that part of the island against the Emperor Soulouque. The writer says:—"A body of from 2000 to 3000 insurgents took possession of a post between this place and Pongry last night, with the view of attacking the town to-day. The military authorities were only aware of this at seven o'clock this morning. The alarm drums were immediately beaten, and every male adult in town was ordered to join the troops. At ten a.m. the troops marched out with the citizens who had joined them; but, being only 500 strong, it is probable they will not make an attack on the insurgents, but will content themselves with defending the entry of the town till reinforced." A postscript to the letter, under date of eleven a.m., adds:—"The alarm drums are again beating. It is said that the troops sent out are repulsed, and the insurgents are pushing forward. People are running distractedly through the streets, taking stores, &c."

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

In no country is there so great a disproportion between the smallness of the public collections and the richness and variety of the private ones as in England. If our national gallery is not yet what it should be, and probably may become, our private collections are rolling on like snow-balls. The Duke of Northumberland has lately added several valuable pictures to the family accumulations, several of which now grace the walls of the British Institution; and this admirable establishment, which periodically discloses to public admiration those flowers of art which otherwise would blush unseen in the domain of privacy, is this year unusually copious, so much so that, except the rare Exhibition of 1851, we recollect none more attractive.

No. 1 is an allegorical portrait of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, by Rubens, the property of the Jersey family, heads of the elder surviving branch of the Villiers (of which the present Lord Clarendon is an illustrious cadet). This is a very gallant picture of "Ostentation," a term applied to such works as the Medicean series in the Louvre. In this case something more than an ordinary equestrian portrait is intended, but yet, the dramatic and religious element being wanting, allegory is impressed into the service of decoration. Unless in great hands, such pictures usually fail, as it requires an extraordinary amount of technical power to get over the want of human interest; and from the sublime to the ridiculous is only a step in such perilous regions. But Rubens was a master in such attempts; and a more distinguished presence than that of the Buckingham, the celebrated Isly-killer and cavalier, could not be furnished by either Whitehall or the Louvre. Free air, land, and water, the most picturesque of costumes, and the most superb of horses, are all noble accessories. But why, oh! why, the eternal Scheidt fishbag as the classical Nereid?

No. 42, a Landscape with Waterfall, by Ruysdael, the property of Mr. Fordham. We congratulate this gentleman on the possession of one of the very finest Ruysdaels that it has been our lot to see—representing an undulating country, with waterfall, under a cloudy sky. Unlike the Boths Pynakers, and Cuyps, to whom all God's creation was a heliotrope, Ruysdael delighted in sober late colour. Never have we seen this Quaker garb of nature given with more effect than in this picture. But when we look closely into the works of this most anti meretricious painter we discover a marvellous felicity of subject, that partly atones for his want of venture into brighter regions. His disposition of masses is like a beautiful piece of architecture: it would be unsafe to add anything, or to take away anything. But, Quaker though he be, and restricted the circle of his permitted sensations, air, earth, and water, all stand in the most perfectly harmonious relation to each other. He does not act powerfully on the nervous system by colours that make a rapid consumption of optical sensation, but he steals on our sympathies with the most tenacious impression of unobtrusive beauty. But, instinctive harmonist as he is, we cannot give him the highest place as a landscape-painter: he never dared beyond his own atmosphere: within that he was perfect.

No. 43, "The Gods Feasting on the Fruits of the Earth," by Bellini, from the Aldobrandini Gallery at Rome, belongs to the Duke of Northumberland. This is a very curious and beautiful picture, different in subject from those usually taken by the early Venetian painters. We almost think that Poussin must have seen this picture, and that it gave a direction to the whole of his subsequent efforts, so curiously does it anticipate by more than a century his manner of treating such subjects. In beauty of landscape Titian never surpassed even if he ever equalled this. Altogether this is the most remarkable picture of the Venetian school of classical genre that we have seen. Its defect is a want of ingenuous abandonment in the grouping, which is set with a too historic and mechanical artifice. It looks rather too much of a transferred frieze. The colouring of some of the left of the picture is flat, and we think damaged, but the right half is delicious beyond all powers of description. The blues and whites are treated with a power, and at the same time a measure, that might have been a lesson to Lesueur and Philip de Champagne. The foliage in mass above, and the light through the trees, reveal a true master.

No. 31, "Marchese di Savorgnano," from the Mareschaldi Palace at Bologna, by Titian, the property of the Right Hon. George Banks, M.P. This is one of Titian's grand works. This is not the man-yahoo of Swift, Jan Steen, and Hogarth, but the man-dmigo of Shakespeare and Buffon's describing. This portrait is replete with distinction—that compound of imposing self-possession and courteous gentleness which is here carried to its highest expression. Who and what this Savorgnano was we do not know; but if he was not an honest man his looks deceive us. Quite different is Andrea del Sarto's portrait of himself (No. 45): the plausible, mendacious swindler is visible in every feature. This is one of the new acquisitions of the Duke of Northumberland, from the Brascchi Gallery: it was dedicated by the artist to Duke Lorenzo dei Medici.

No. 52, "The Crucifixion," from the Church of Vittoria, Rome, by Guido, also belonging to the heir of the Percey. It is by such compositions as this, and not by the voluptuous elegance of the Susannahs and the Cleopatras, that Guido has attained the height of his reputation. This picture is full of the finest religious sentiment. Christ, crucified, has breathed his last; the foot of the cross is flanked by Mary and a disciple; a skull on the ground denotes Golgotha; and Jerusalem is overlooked in the distance, not delineated, but faintly revealed in the darkness. The whole composition is full of pathos and sublimity. The body of Christ—the touchstone of a great artist—is designed and handled with singular power, care, and fidelity; and there is a sombre fascination in the landscape such as Salvator never surpassed. The shadows are limpid and united, and not in his Carravagesque manner. The skulls on the ground and the temple in the distance are full of the most puissant association. But, if we are to be hypercritical, why has he made the drapery of Mary (or Mary Magdalen) so baggy? Also the disciple, to our eyes, has a slight suspicion of attitudinizing. Nevertheless, Guido shows himself in the whole effect of this composition a sacred tragic poet of nearly the highest power.

No. 52, "The Temple of Jupiter Panellenius, Island of Ægina," with Athens in the distance, by Turner, the property of the Duke of Northumberland. This celebrated work is one of the best specimens of the art of this "prince of the power of the air," when still on terra firma, and before he had taken his departure for those transcendental regions in which we cannot live with him; in short, it is an early Turner, and therefore, in our opinion, one of the golden age of this artist. By this we do not mean the age of tornados of gamboze, but of the good old time. In short, we are of the unorthodox *quoad* the storms of yokes of eggs, which always remind us of Paul de Kock's pictorial genius when he says, "Other artists basely imitate nature, but give me the artist who can invent a nature of his own." This "imitates" some of Nature's most select handiwork; and therefore is a production of extraordinary beauty. Many in the days of our fathers thought it Turner's masterpiece. When we say that we prefer the "Building of Carthage" in the National Gallery, we give the measure of its classification, which is with the very highest efforts of the master. The subject is large, varied, and poetical. The air is finely treated, but with nothing comparable to the magic of the effulgent haze of the "Building of Carthage." Had there been no liad we might have given the *Odyssey* a higher place in our estimation.

We are oppressed with the multitude of other delightful pictures. It is a glut of sweets. At present we have only time to allude to (No. 16) "A Landscape and Figures," by Both; (No. 17) Parmegiano's "Portrait of Himself"; two Salvators belonging to the Duke d'Aumale; (No. 20) "A Landscape" by Pynaker; (No. 22) "A Landscape" by Ruysdael and Berchem; (No. 27) "A Dutch Family," by Maes; (No. 30) "A View of a Town," by Van der Heyden, belonging to the Duke of Wellington; (No. 37) "A Guard-room," by Teniers; (No. 46) "Portrait of Pope Paul (the third) III." by Titian; (No. 47) Hobbema's "Village," (No. 68) "The Bonnet Rouge," by Teniers; (No. 79) "A Hawking-Party," by Paul Potter; (No. 82) "Venus Wounded," by Paggi; (No. 87) "A Concert," by De Hooge; (No. 110) "A Woodman's Cottage," by P. Nasyimth; (No. 12) "The Guerrilla taking leave of his Confessor," by Wilkie; (No. 137) Hogarth's "Garlick as Richard III.," and charming works of Reynolds, Romney, and other English artists.

THE IMPERIAL STATE CARRIAGES OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.—Every one admires the wonderful beauty of the horses of these carriages and the admirable style of all the equipments. In fact it may with truth be declared that no Monarch in Europe can vie with the Emperor of the French in the admirable appointment of everything relating to the State equipages. The carriage in which the Prince Imperial rides is that which was used as the State carriage at the marriage of their Majesties, but the present State carriage of his Majesty is altogether new, and for extreme richness and elegance cannot be matched. It is absolutely dazzling with gilding and painting. The upper part is open, being merely ornamented with plate glass, so that the persons occupying it can be perfectly seen by the spectators. On the panels of the doors are painted on an Imperial mantle covered with bees, the Napoleonic arms surrounded by the crown, surrounded by the cordon of the Legion of Honour, and supported by genii. The four side panels have symbolical figures taken from religious subjects. On the front and back are again the arms of the Empire supported by genii. All these paintings have been executed by first-rate artists, and in the most beautiful manner. The body of the carriage is a mass of gilding and the upper part has a group supporting the Imperial crown.—*Galignani.*

LITERATURE.

MEMORIALS OF HIS TIME. By HENRY COCKBURN. Adam and Charles Black, Edinburgh.

Lord Cockburn, who died about two years ago, at the age of seventy-five, was a man of mark among the society of Edinburgh. He was allied by family to the aristocracy of the country. He was long one of the most eminent members of the Scottish bar, and was raised to the bench several years before his death. He took an active part in the general as well as local politics of his time; and his literary acquirements gave him an honoured place among those distinguished men of letters who imparted a peculiar character to the social life of the Scottish metropolis. He was not much of an author, his literary efforts having been limited to some contributions to the *Edinburgh Review*, a pamphlet or two on temporary topics, his *Life of his friend Jeffrey*, and the present posthumous work. But all that he has done is honourable to his character and talents; and these "Memorials of his Time" will have a permanent value as a record of the changes made by the last half century—the most eventful fifty years in the history of the world—in the moral, political, and social condition of the country of his birth. The book is exceedingly readable and entertaining; rich in pleasant anecdote and lively gossip; but these only serve to give zest and piquancy to the graver portions of the volume.

Henry Cockburn was a Whig of the old Foxite type; and it is to his honour that he espoused liberal principles at his very outset in life, when by doing so he risked the favour of his own most powerful relatives, and knew that he was marred his prospects in the world. His talents and industry achieved success at the bar; but the political rewards of his profession were withheld from him till the accession of the Grey Administration, when he was made Solicitor-General at the age of fifty-one. People south of the Tweed have little notion what it was to be a Scottish Whig in Cockburn's early days. The country lay prostrate under the iron rule of a Tory oligarchy; and to be a Whig at Edinburgh in those days demanded as courageous and disinterested a spirit of patriotism as it now does to be a liberal at Naples or Vienna:—

No young person, who came to think for himself soon enough to keep what he heard in remembrance, can ever forget the painful impression made upon him by the intolerance of those times. No doubt the intolerance was justified, or at least provoked, by fright at first; but this soon became a pretence; and the hourly violence that prevailed was kept up chiefly as a factious engine. I lived in the midst of it. My father's house was one of the places where the leaders, and the ardent followers, of the party in power were in the constant habit of assembling. I can sit yet, in imagination, at the small side table, and overhear the conversation, a few feet off, at the established Wednesday dinner. How they raved! What sentiments! What principles! Not that I differed from them. I thought them quite right; and hated liberty and the people as much as they did. But this drove me into an opposite horror; for I was terrified out of such wits as they left me at the idea of bloodshed, and it never occurred to me that it could be avoided. My reason no sooner began to open, and to get some fair play, than the distressing wisdom of my ancestors began to fade, and the more attractive sense that I met with among the young men into whose company our debating societies threw me gradually hardened me into what I became—whatever this was.

The political state of Scotland in those days is illustrated by Lord Cockburn's description of the celebrated judge, Macqueen of Braxfield. After speaking of his strength of intellect and legal learning, our author proceeds:—

With this intellectual force as applied to law, his merits, I fear, cease. Illiterate and without any taste for refined enjoyment, strength of understanding, which gave him power without cultivation, only encouraged him to a more contemptuous disdain of all nature less coarse than his own. Despising the growing improvement of manners, he shocked the feelings even of an age which, with more of the formality, had far less of the substance of decorum than our own. Thousands of his sayings have been preserved, and the staple of them is indecency; which he succeeded in making many people enjoy, or at least endure, by hearty laughter, energy of manner, and rough humour. Almost the only story of him I ever heard that had some fun in it without immodesty was when a butler gave up his place because his Lordship's wife was always scolding him. "Lord!" he exclaimed, "ye've little to complain o': ye may be thankful ye're no married to her."

It is impossible to condemn his conduct as a criminal judge too gravely or too severely. It was a disgrace to the age. A dexterous and practical trier of ordinary cases, he was harsh to prisoners even in his jocularity, and to every counsel whom he chose to dislike. I have heard this attempted to be accounted for and extenuated by the tendency which the old practice of taking all the evidence down in writing, by judicial dictation, had to provoke a wrangle between the court and the bar every moment, and thus to excite mutual impatience and hostility. No doubt there was something in this; but not much. And Braxfield, as might have been expected, from his love of domineering, continued the vice after its external cause, whatever it may have been, had ceased. It may be doubted if he was ever so much in his element as when tauntingly repelling the last despairing claim of a wretched culprit, and sending him to Botany Bay or the gallows with an insulting jest; over which he would chuckle the more from observing that correct people were shocked. Yet this was not from cruelty, for which he was too strong and too jovial, but from cherished coarseness.

The union of talent with a passion for rude predomination, exercised in a very discretionary court, tended to form a formidable and dangerous judicial character. This appeared too often in ordinary cases—but all stains on his administration of the common business of his court disappear in the indelible iniquity of the political trials of 1793 and 1795. In these he was the Jeffreys of Scotland. He as the head of the court, and the only very powerful man it contained, was the real director of its proceedings. The reports make his abuse of the judgment-seat bad enough; but his misconduct was not so fully disclosed in formal decisions and charges, as it transpired in casual remarks and general manner. "Let them bring me prisoners, and I'll find them law," used to be openly stated as his suggestion, when an intended political prosecution was marred by anticipated difficulties. If innocent of this atrocious sentiment, he was scandalously ill-used by his friends, by whom I repeatedly heard it ascribed to him at the time, and who, instead of denying it, spoke of it as a thing understood, and rather admired it as worthy of the man and of the times. Mr. Horner (the father of Francis), who was one of the jurors in Muir's case, told me that when he was passing, as was often done then, behind the bench to get into the box, Braxfield, who knew him, whispered—"Come awa, Maister Horner, come awa, and help us to hang an o' these damned scoundrels." The reporter of Gerald's case could not venture to make the prisoner say more than that "Christianity was an innovation." But the full truth is, that in stating this view he added that all great men had been reformers, "even our Saviour himself." "Muckle he made o' that," chuckled Braxfield, in an under voice; "he was naught." Before Hume's Commentaries had made our criminal record intelligible, the forms and precedents were a mystery understood by the initiated alone, and by nobody so much as by Mr. Joseph Norris, the ancient clerk. Braxfield used to quash anticipated doubts by saying, "Hoot! just gie me Josie Norris and a good jury, an' I'll doo for the fellow." He died in 1799, in his seventy-eighth year.

This is an admirable specimen of Lord Cockburn's portrait-painting. Many other characters are drawn with equal truth and spirit; and the book is indeed a picture-gallery of the most remarkable people of the author's time—judges, lawyers, divines, and literati.

The following are a few traits from the picture of David Rae, Lord Eskgrove, who succeeded Braxfield as head of the Criminal Court:—

Eskgrove was a very considerable lawyer; in mere knowledge probably Braxfield's superior. But he had nothing of Braxfield's grasp or reasoning, and in everything requiring force or soundness of head he was a mere child compared with that practical Hercules. Still he was cunning in old Scotch law. But a more ludicrous personage could not exist. When I first knew him he was in the zenith of his absurdity. People seemed to have nothing to do but to tell stories of this one man. To be able to give an anecdote of Eskgrove, with a proper imitation of his voice and manner, was a sort of fortune in society. Scott in those days was famous for this particularly. Whenever a knot of persons were seen listening in the Outer House to one who was talking slowly, with a low muttering voice and a projected chin, and then the listeners burst asunder in roars of laughter, nobody thought of asking what the joke was. They were sure that it was a successful imitation of Eskgrove; and this was enough. Yet never once did he do or say anything which had the slightest claim to be remembered for any intrinsic merit. The value of all his words and actions consisted in their absurdity.

As usual, then, with stronger heads than his, everything was connected by his terror with Republican horrors. I heard him, in condemning a tailor to death for murdering a soldier by stabbing him, aggravate the offence thus, "And not only did you murder him, whereby he was bereaved of his life; but you did thrust, or push, or pierce, or project, or propel, the steel-thrust weapon through the belly-band of his regimental breeches, which were his Majesty's!"

He rarely failed to signalize himself in pronouncing sentences of death. It was almost a matter of style with him to console the prisoner by assuring him that, "Whatever your religious persuasion may be—or even if, as I suppose, you be of no persuasion at all—there are plenty of reverend gentlemen who will be most happy for to show you the way to yernal life!"

He had to condemn two or three persons to die who had broken into a house at Luss, and assaulted Sir James Colquhoun and others, and robbed them of a large sum of money. He first, as was his almost constant practice, explained the nature of the various crimes, assault, robbery, and hame-sucken, of which last he gave them the etymology; and he then reminded them that they attacked the house and the persons within it, and robbed them, and then came to this climax, "All this you did; and God preserve us! joost when they were sitten doon to their dinner!"

Another original of the Scottish bench was George Ferguson, Lord Hermand, a personage still remembered in Edinburgh. He was an able lawyer and a worthy man:—

Two young gentlemen, great friends, went together to the theatre in Glasgow, supped at the lodgings of one of them, and passed a whole summer night over their punch. In the morning a kindly wrangle broke out about their separating or not separating, when by some rashness, if not accident, one of them was stabbed, not violently, but in so vital a part that he died on the spot. The survivor was tried at Edinburgh, and was convicted of culpable homicide. It was one of the sad cases where the legal guilt was greater than the moral; and, very properly, he was sentenced only to a short imprisonment. Hermand, who felt that discredit had been brought on the cause of drinking, had no sympathy with the tenderness of his temperate brethren, and was vehement for transportation. "We are told that there was no malice, and that the prisoner must have been in liquor. In liquor! Why, he was drunk! And yet he murdered the very man who had been drinking with him! They had been carousing the whole night; and yet he stabbed him! after drinking a whole bottle of rum with him! Good God! my Lords, if he will do this when he's drunk, what will he not do when he's sober!"

His love of children was warm-hearted and unaffected. He always treated them seriously, exactly as if they were grown up. Few old men's speeches are more amiable than his about his grandnephew who happened to be his partner in a match at bowls: "No wonder that that little fellow and I are such friends—there are just seventy years between us." He was eighty, the boy ten.

But when a boy happened to be a sailor he was irresistible. A little English midshipman, being violently attacked by a much bigger lad in Greenock, defended himself with his dirk, and by an unfortunate, if not accidental, thrust killed the assailant. He was tried for this at Glasgow, and had the good luck to have Hermand for his Judge, for no Judge ever fought a more gallant battle for a prisoner. The boy appeared at the bar in his uniform. Hermand first refused "to try a child." After this was driven out of him, the indictment, which described the occurrence and said that the prisoner had slain the deceased "wickedly and feloniously," was read; and Hermand then said, "Well, my young friend, this is not true, is it? Are you guilty or not guilty?" "Not guilty, my Lord." "I'll be sworn you're not!" "In spite of all his exertions, his young friend was convicted of culpable homicide; for which he was sentenced to a few days' imprisonment.

Henry Mackenzie, the so-called "Man of Feeling":—

Henry Mackenzie's excellent conversation, agreeable family, good evening parties, and the interest attached to united age and reputation, made his house one of the pleasantest. One of the *Arbitri Elegantiarum* of old Edinburgh, he survived to flourish in a new scene. But though he survived the passing away of many a literary friend, and many a revolution of manners, he accommodated himself to unavoidable change with the cheerfulness of a man of sense, above the weakness of supposing that the world must have been in its prime only when he was in his. The title of "The Man of Feeling" adhered to him ever after the publication of that novel; and it was a good example of the difference there sometimes is between a man and his work. Strangers used to fancy that he must be a pensive sentimental Harley; whereas he was far better—a hard-headed practical man, as full of worldly wisdom as most of his fictitious characters are devoid of it; and this without in the least impairing the affectionate softness of his heart. In person he was thin, shrivelled, and yellow, kiln-dried, with something, when seen in profile, of the clever wicked look of Voltaire.

Two noted literary ladies:—

For a small place, where literature sticks out, Edinburgh has never been much encumbered by professed literary ladies; and most of those we have had have been exotics. The two best about this time were Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, the authoress of "The Cottagers of Glenburnie," and Mrs. Grant, widow of a minister at Laggan, who had unfolded herself in the "Letters from the Mountains"—an interesting treasury of good solitary thoughts. They were excellent women, and not too blue. Their sense covered the colour. I think it was to Mrs. Hamilton that Jeffrey said, in allusion to the good taste of never losing the feminine in the literary character, that there was no objection to the blue stocking, providing the petticoat came low enough down. One wonders why Mrs. Hamilton, with her good Scotch eye, did not put more Scotch among her cottagers than dirt, on which almost solely the book lives. Mrs. Grant was a tall, dark woman, of very considerable intellect, great spirit, and the warmest benevolence. Her love of individual Whigs, particularly of Jeffrey, in spite of her amusing horror of their principles, was honourable to her heart. She was always under the influence of an affectionate and delightful enthusiasm, which, unquenched by time or sorrow, survived the wreck of many domestic attachments, and shed a glow over the close of a very protracted life. Both she and Mrs. Hamilton were remarkable for the success of their literary conversational gatherings. Their evening parties had the greater merit from the smallness of their houses, and of their means.

Lord Cockburn gives some ludicrous pictures of the old Scotch ways of administering justice. Here is one of them:—

At Edinburgh the old Judges had a practice at which even their barbaric age used to shake its head. They had always wine and biscuits on the bench when the business was clearly to be protracted beyond the usual dinner hour. The modern Judges—those I mean who were made after 1800—never gave in to this; but with those of the preceding generation, some of whom lasted several years after 1800, it was quite common. Black bottles of strong port were set down beside them on the bench, with glasses, carafes of water, tumblers, and biscuits; and this without the slightest attempt at concealment. The refreshment was generally allowed to stand untouched, and, as if despised, for a short time, during which their Lordships seemed to be intent only on their notes. But in a little, some water was poured into the tumbler, and sipped quietly as if merely to sustain nature. Then a few drops of wine were ventured upon, but only with the water: till at last patience could endure no longer, and a full bumper of the pure black element was tossed over; after which the thing went on regularly, and there was a comfortable munching and quaffing, to the great envy of the parched throats in the gallery. The strong-headed stood it tolerably well, but it told, plainly enough, upon the feeble. Not that the ermine was absolutely intoxicated, but it was certainly sometimes affected. This, however, was so ordinary with these sages, that it really made little apparent change upon them. It was not very perceptible at a distance; they all acquired the habit of sitting and looking judicial enough, even when their bottles had reached the lowest ebb. This open-court refection did not prevail, so far as I ever saw, at circuits. It took a different form there. The temptation of the inn frequently produced a total stoppage of business; during which all concerned—judges and counsel, clerks, jurymen, and provosts—had a jolly dinner; after which they returned again to the transportations and hangings. I have seen this done often. It was a common remark that the step of the evening procession was far less true to the music than that of the morning.

This work has been published by Lord Cockburn's executors; and we learn from their preface that it was written between the year 1821 and the close of 1830, with the exception of some small additions and alterations made subsequently. The narrative closes with the death of George IV., in the summer of 1830; the accession of the Whigs to power a few months afterwards; and the author's appointment to the office of Solicitor-General, under the administration of Earl Grey. Our specimens of the book are culled from its lighter portions; but the reader will find a luminous and comprehensive view of the progress of public opinion and general enlightenment in Scotland during the whole period to which these "Memorials" relate.

THE EMPEROR'S VIGIL, AND THE WAVES AND THE WAR. By ERNEST JONES, of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law, Author of the "Battle Day." London: George Routledge and Co.

When noticing the "Battle Day," and other productions of Mr. Ernest Jones, we expressed our conviction that he was eminently qualified to excel in lyrical poetry, and that criticism is fully justified by the present volume. The tone of his mind is vigorous, and he combines depth and warmth of feeling with a lively fancy and an ardent imagination, chastened by a cultivated taste. Some modern bards have achieved an ephemeral reputation by an inflated and obscure style, and a spasmodic straining after effect, mistaking the unintelligible for the sublime; while critics of perverted judgment, or affecting eccentricity, have lavished praise on what is simply ridiculous. Mr. Jones has studied his art in a purer and wiser school. He, indeed, soars on high, but his flight is sustained on firm and steady pinions. His diction is clear, sparkling, and copious, and the flow of his verse is ever marked by ease and grace.

On the present occasion Mr. Jones has attuned his lyre to the stirring strains of war, singing the praises of our gallant seamen in the Baltic fleet.

The "Emperor's Vigil" is the longest poem in the collection, and breathes throughout a noble indignation against the ambition and despotism of the late Czar Nicholas.

We have not space for lengthened extract, but cannot resist the following quotation from one of the sweetest and tenderest poems in the volume.

It is entitled the "Sailor's Night Watch," and has only to be known to become a favourite in the navy:—

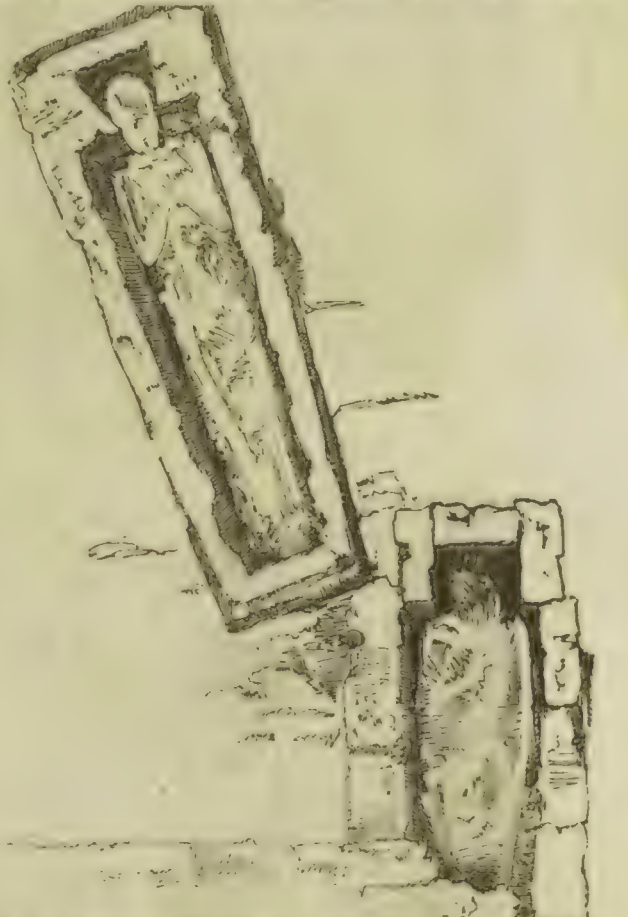
What steals upon the midnight?	And my dear one lonely and sad
What walks across the wave,	within,
Where the moon's long light path	And my child at the cottage door.
stretches o'er	
The sailor's sullen grave,	Their eyes are turned towards me,
Like a bridge that is built by angels,	And I beckoned them to my side,
The sinking soul to save!	I beckon them up with the pulse of my
	heart,
And then, in the still midnight,	And they come o'er the ocean wide,
Sweet forms come tripping o'er,	On that delicate path that the angels
For I see at the end of that ray of light	made
My home on a pleasant shore.	For the feet of my sorrowing bride.

We would willingly quote more from this exquisite little poem, but our limited space forbids; and perhaps we have said enough to send the reader who relishes true poetry to the volume itself. Mr. Jones gives half a promise that he will also celebrate the deeds of our Crimean heroes, and surely there are few writers better qualified to do justice to their fortitude and valour.

STONE COFFINS DISCOVERED IN WORCESTER CATHEDRAL.

(From a Correspondent.)

On the 7th ult. the workmen engaged in the repairs now in progress at Worcester Cathedral, while excavating for foundations at the foot of the south-west buttress of the south-east transept, discovered two stone coffins, containing skeletons, very perfect, and apparently in the exact position in



which the bodies had been deposited. Both are the remains of men of large stature—the one of extraordinary height, measuring nearly 6 ft. 6 in. The first-discovered coffin was 5 ft. below the surface of the ground, 3 ft. from the base of the buttress, and with its lower extremity or foot pointing about fifteen degrees to the northward of east. It is roughly hewn out of an entire block of sandstone, similar to that of which the ancient walls of the cathedral are built, and with a recess formed for the head. There were no remains of covering. The last-discovered and most ancient coffin, containing the largest skeleton, is of still ruder workmanship than the former, constructed of several roughly-worked stones, with the recess for the head formed of three pieces. This coffin had a covering of rough slabs. Its situation is very remarkable, its lower part, as far as the knee joints, being partly embedded in the masonry of the buttress, which appears to have been built round it. There was nothing found which could lead to their identity.

The importance of the works which led to these discoveries rendering their removal unavoidable, orders have been given by the Very Rev. the Dean that they should be carefully deposited in the crypt.

INAUGURATION OF THE PRINTERS' ALMHOUSES, TOTTENHAM.

On Wednesday (last week) the Almshouses for the reception of aged and infirm members of all branches of the printing trade, which have just been erected at Wood-green, Tottenham, were formally inaugurated by a grand *déjeuner*, held in the grounds adjoining the building. The Earl Stanhope, the president of the institution, whose family name is so intimately connected with the printing trade, in both a literary and mechanical point of view, most appropriately presided on the occasion. The noble chairman and the stewards, comprising the representatives of some 150 of the leading publishing firms of London, assembled at the building at about half-past twelve, and were conducted over the whole establishment by the architect, Mr. William Webb.

The building is in the Tudor style of architecture, and occupies three sides of a square, the fourth, fronting the road, being tastefully laid out as a garden. It contains between thirty and forty rooms, and will give accommodation to about twelve couples, allowing a neat and commodious sitting-room and bed room and kitchen to each couple. The number of inmates is, however, at present small, only three couples having been elected out of six candidates at the first ballot, which took place on the 4th inst. The inmates of the institution receive, in addition to the gratuitous house accommodation, a certain weekly allowance, which varies according to the amount of any other means of subsistence which the recipient may possess. The inspection of the building having concluded, the whole party retired to the pavilion erected on the grounds at the back of the Almshouses, where a *déjeuner* was served, at which Earl Stanhope presided.

In the evening a grand tea party, followed by a concert and a ball, in celebration of the inauguration, took place at the Highbury Barn Tavern, at which between 400 and 500 persons connected with the mechanical portion of the printing trade were present. William Clowes, Esq., presided on the occasion.

On the day preceding the opening of the Almshouses, a neighbouring Quaker lady (an acquaintance of Elizabeth Fry), rapidly approaching three-score years and ten, visited the institution, and, having inspected the building, presented each of the newly-elected inmates with 5s., and directed them to send to her residence every other morning for a supply of new milk; nor did this kind visitor depart without leaving a donation in the subscription-box, and her name enrolled in the visitors' book. We are happy to learn that the subscriptions in connection with the Festival exceed £670.

FANCY BAZAAR AT WELLINGTON BARRACKS.

The committee of ladies who during the last two years have been occupied in the praiseworthy task of assisting and providing employment for the wives and children of Guardsmen on foreign service in the East having ascertained that a nursery and infant-school were much needed, wherein the younger children of the Brigade of Guards might be tended and instructed during their mothers' daily absence at work, a subscription has been opened with a view of carrying out that object, and a sufficient sum has already been collected to justify the trustees (Colonels Thornton, Keppel, Steele, Moncrieff, Kingscote, and Carleton) in entering into a negotiation for the purchase of a proper site for such an establishment, close to the Victoria Lodging-house for Married Guardsmen.



FANCY BAZAAR AT THE WELLINGTON BARRACKS, ST. JAMES'S-PARK.

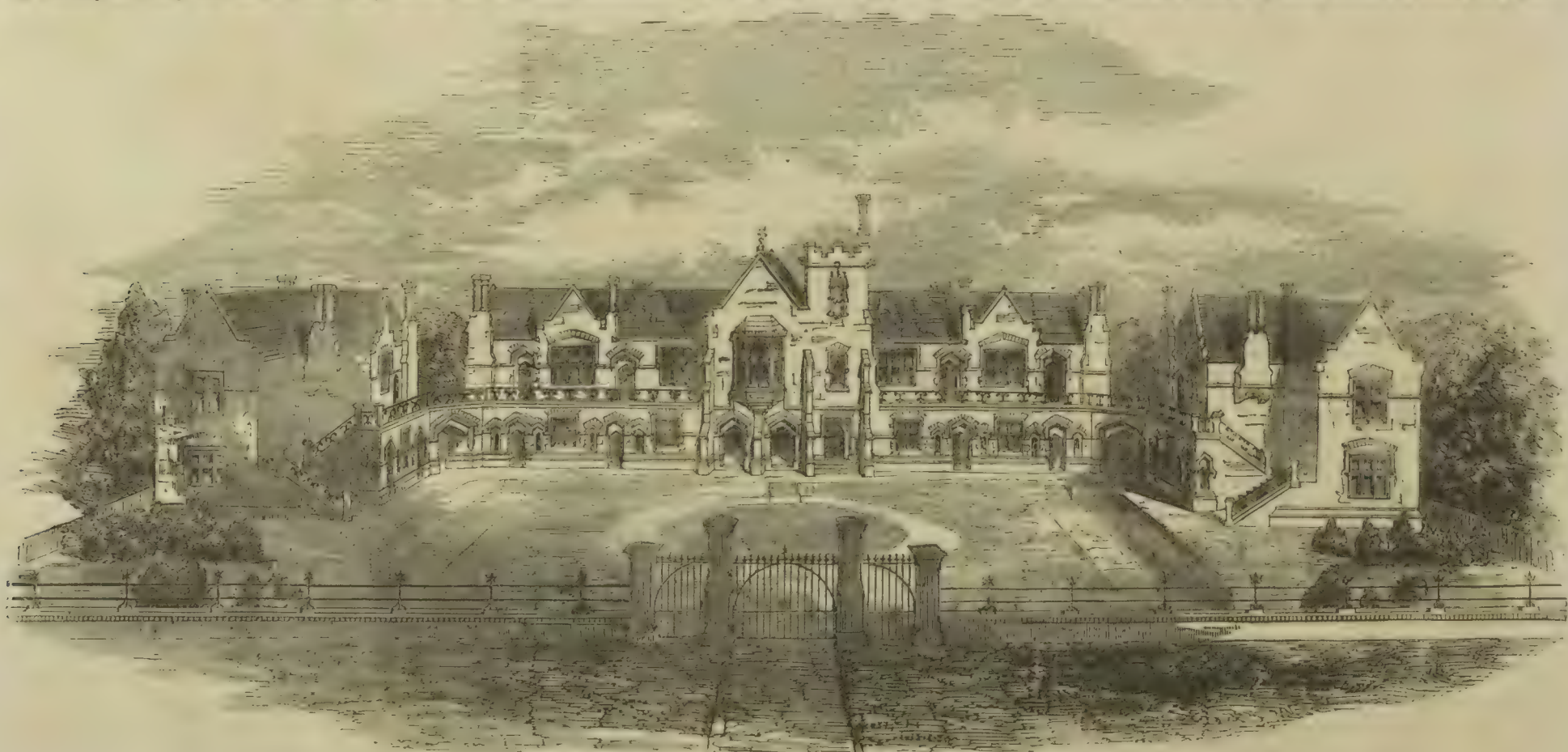
Her Majesty the Queen has graciously promised her support to this charitable institution, and their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Cambridge and the Duchesses of Kent, Cambridge, and Gloucester have already subscribed liberally towards carrying it out.

On Thursday and Friday (last week) a Grand Fancy Fair was held in

aid of the funds for erecting the necessary buildings, and for the permanent maintenance of the proposed nursery and school, in the grounds of the Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, St. James's Park. The bazaar was fitted up in six large marquees, two to each regiment, the whole under the superintendence of Mrs. Armytage, assisted by Mrs. Ponsonby, Mrs.

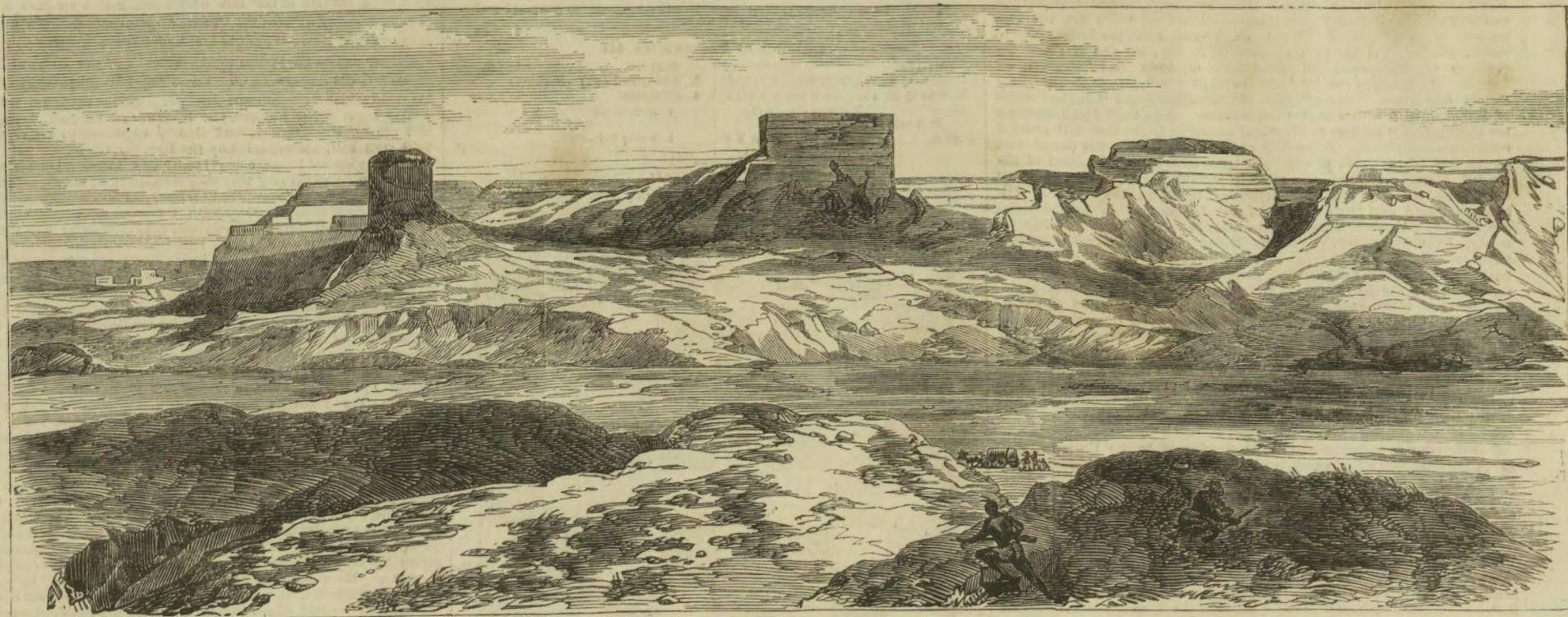
Moncrieff, and the ladies of officers of the brigade. The bands of the Grenadier and Coldstream Guards attended during each day, and played a selection from the most eminent composers.

On Friday the Queen and Prince Albert, the Princess Royal, and Prince Frederick William of Prussia, honoured the bazaar with a visit.



THE PRINTERS' ALMSHOUSES, WOOD-GREEN, TOTTENHAM.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

THE NEBRASKA AND KANSAS TERRITORY.



ANCIENT BLUFF RUINS, NEBRASKA.



SETTLERS ENTERING NEBRASKA, PAPPEA CREEK.



STEAMER PASSING BATON ROUGE, NEBRASKA. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE NEBRASKA AND KANSAS TERRITORIES.

NEBRASKA is the name given to a portion of that extensive unoccupied territory of the United States the boundaries of which are the 40th parallel of N. lat., on the S.; Utah, Oregon, and Washington territories, on the W.; the 49th parallel of N. lat., on the N.; and the territory of Minnesota, and the States of Iowa and Missouri, on the E. It hitherto has been the home of the crafty "Pawnee," the stately and brave "Sioux," and the suitably named "Snake" tribes of Indians, with others of less importance. Now their death-warrants are signed, and, if we may credit recent accounts, Uncle Sam will prove a relentless executioner. On the 25th of May, 1854, an act was passed, and on the 30th of the same month was confirmed by the President of the United States, organising the most important parts of Indian and all north-west territory into two territories, Nebraska and Kansas. The bill guaranteed that the property of the Indians within the territories should be respected until their titles to the lands should, by treaty, be extinguished. Various tribes of the Nebraska Indians have transferred their lands to the United States. The "Omahas" and "Ottos," for instance, have ceded nearly 10,000,000 acres, for which they are to receive 52,000 dollars annually, for thirty years. For themselves they have reserved a tract ten miles wide, and of an indefinite length, which they of course will keep until the proper authorities want it. The fate of the red men is evident. Henceforth they must, willingly or not, resign Buffalo and Elk on the rolling prairie to Yankee farmers, and try to be content, like some of the rest of us, with visions of happy hunting-grounds beyond the grave. There is little hope for them here. Go which way they may, the land is occupied; and to remain is only to be embroiled in deadly feuds—to be shot down without hesitation and with very little remorse.

The territory is doubtless a valuable acquisition to the United States. Large portions will afford extensive fields for agricultural enterprise, and already it is decided that a railway shall pass through it to California. The western portion will be valuable for little else besides grazing. There are also large portions that are very mountainous, sandy, and barren. The Missouri river rises in this territory, and the Platt river and the Yellow Stone river are confined during their whole course to it. Both the Platt and the Yellow Stone have many large tributaries. The Platt is the longest affluent of the Missouri, and rises in the Rocky Mountains. It is very broad, and so shallow that, except during floods, it is seldom difficult to find a convenient ford. The Yellow Stone is the most important affluent of the Missouri, being about 1000 miles in length, 800 miles of which are navigable.

It was during the passage of the Nebraska Act that the "Missouri Compromise" was repealed. The South declared that it was unconstitutional to interfere with the domestic institutions of states or territories. At last the contest became so fierce that a dissolution of the Union was threatened both in and out of Congress. Nebraska and Kansas, however, were left to decide for themselves whether slavery should exist as an institution or not. By calling in the assistance of the "border ruffians" of Missouri a small handful of pro-slavery settlers in Kansas succeeded last year in electing a slave legislature against the wish of the great majority of the settlers. The dispute between the two parties, which has been taken up warmly by the North and South, has gone to so great a length, as we explained last week, that it threatens to break up the Union. We have this week given views of "Settlers entering the Territory of Nebraska" and "Ancient Bluff Ruins near Fort Laramie, in Nebraska."

GOLD MEDAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

In some of our former numbers we have given Engravings of Medals presented to distinguished men, and we shall endeavour, as opportunity occurs, to complete the list. With this view, we give the Gold Medal placed at the disposal of the Institute of British Architects by her Gracious Majesty the Queen, the Patroness of the Institution. This society formerly consisted of two bodies, the Architectural Society, and the Institute of Architects, but the former, under the presidency of Mr. Tite, was merged into the latter about ten years ago. The body is numerous, the Institute is established by charter, and contains all the leading architects of England and of most other countries. The medal (given annually) "is conferred on such distinguished architect or man of science, of any country, as may have designed or executed any building of high merit, or produced a work tending to promote or facilitate the knowledge of architecture, or the various branches of science connected therewith."

By the by-laws of the Institute, no party can be recommended to the Queen for this honour without the recommendation of the Council of the Institute, confirmed at a meeting of all its members specially summoned for the purpose.



GOLD MEDAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS, ADJUDGED TO MR. TITE, M.P.



The medal was first given in 1848, and the following is a list of those professors to whom it has been adjudged:—

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1848.—C. B. Cockerell, R.A. | 1853.—Sir R. Smirke, Hon. Fellow, R.A. |
| 1849.—Cav. L. Canina, Hon. and Cor. Member, Rome | 1854.—Philip Hardwick, Fellow, R.A. |
| 1850.—C. Barry, Fellow, R.A. | 1855.—J. J. Hittori, Hon. and Cor. Member, Paris. |
| 1851.—T. L. Donaldson, Fellow. | 1856.—William Tite, Fellow, M.P., and Cor. Member, Munich. |
| 1852.—Chev. Leo. von Klenze, Hon. and Cor. Member, Munich. | |

The medal is a fine work of art, and is by the elder Wyon. Our Engraving is somewhat less than the real size.

CHESS.

a Our customary notices to Chess Communicants are unavoidably postponed until next week.

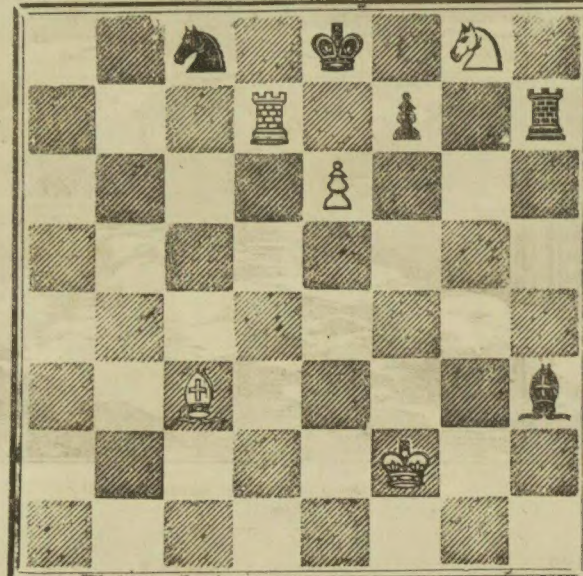
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 643.

- | WHITE. | BLACK. | WHITE. | BLACK. |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| 1. Kt to Q 6th (ch) | R takes Kt (best) | 3. R to Q 2nd (ch) | K moves |
| 2. B to Q Kt 4th | B P takes B or (a) | 4. Kt mates. | |
| (a) 2. | Q R takes B (b) | 4. Kt to K 4th | Mate. |
| 3. R to Q 2nd (ch) | K to Q B 6th | 3. R to Q 2nd—Mate. | |
| (b) 2. | R takes Kt, or K to Q 6th | | |

PROBLEM No. 644.

By M. GROSDÉMANGE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, playing first, gives mate in four moves.

CONTINUATION OF THE CONSULTATION GAMES AT THE ST. GEORGE'S CHESS CLUB.

Instructive partie played by Messrs. STAUNTON and RANKEN against Messrs. LOWENTHAL and FALKBEER.

(The Central Gambit.)

- | WHITE | BLACK | WHITE | BLACK |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| (Messrs. L. and F.) | (Messrs. S. and R.) | (Messrs. L. and F.) | (Messrs. S. and R.) |
| 1. P to K 4th | P to K 4th | 25. R takes B | Q takes R |
| 2. P to Q 4th | P takes P | 26. P takes Q | Kt takes Q |
| 3. K Kt to K B 3rd | | 27. B to K 3rd | R to K B 7th |
| (a) | | 28. B takes Kt | B takes Q P |
| 4. K B to Q B 4th | K B to Q B 3rd | 29. B to Q B 3rd | P to K R 4th |
| 5. Castles | P to Q 3rd | 30. P to K B 3rd | K to K B 2nd |
| 6. P to Q B 3d | Q to K B 3rd (b) | 31. P to K R 4th | P to Q B 3rd |
| 7. K B to Q Kt 5th | Q B to K Kt 5th | 32. R to Q 2d | B takes K Kt P |
| 8. Q to Q B 4th | K Kt to K 2nd | 33. R to Q 2nd | (ch) |
| 9. K Kt takes Q P | Castles on K's side (c) | 34. K to Kt sq | R takes R |
| 10. Q B to K 3rd (d) | Q to K Kt 3rd (e) | 35. B takes R | B to K 5th |
| 11. K to R sq | B takes Kt | 36. K to K B 2nd | K to K 3rd |
| 12. B takes B (f) | B to Q 2nd (g) | 37. B to Q B 3rd | P to K Kt 3rd |
| 13. Kt to Q 2nd | P to K B 4th | 38. B to Q 4th | P to Q Kt 4th |
| 14. Q R to K sq | P takes K P | 39. P to Q Kt 4th | K to Q 4th |
| 15. Kt takes P | P to Q R 3rd | 40. K to K 3rd | B to K B 4th |
| 16. B takes Kt (A) | B takes B | 41. R to Q Kt 6th | K to Q B 5th |
| 17. Q to Q B 4th (ch) | B to Q 4th | 42. B to Q R 5th | P to Q B 4th |
| 18. Q to K 2nd | Kt to K B 4th (i) | 43. P takes P | K takes P |
| 19. P to K B 3rd | Q R to K sq | 44. K to Q 2nd | P to Q Kt 5th |
| 20. B to K B 2nd | B takes Q R P | 45. B to Q 8th | K to Q Kt 4th |
| 21. P to Q B 4th | P to Q 4th | 46. K to Q B sq | P to Q R 4th |
| 22. P takes P | Kt to Q 3rd | 47. K to Q Kt 2nd | P to Q 5th |
| 23. Q to Q 2nd | B to Q B 5th | 48. B to K B 6th | P to Q B 6th (ch) |
| 24. K R to K Kt sq | Q R takes Kt | 49. K to R sq | P to Q Kt 6th |

- (a) This resolves the opening into a position of the Scotch game, and is not thought quite so good as move—3 K B to Q B 4th.
 (b) This defence we are disposed to estimate more highly than we formerly did.
 (c) White dare not avail themselves of the gratuity in the shape of a pawn now offered, as its acceptance would cost them the game.
 (d) The best move, undoubtedly.
 (e) Had they taken with the Q Pawn, Black could safely have won their King's Pawn.
 (f) Probably the best move, as it leaves them free to take the King's Pawn; or, after playing P to Q R 3d, to gain an awkward attack upon the adverse Queen.
 (g) It was contemplated that White would now make a desperate effort to recover themselves by playing Kt to B 6th (ch). That move, however, would have cost them the exchange, and left their game in other respects no better than it was before.
 (h) Now Black have fairly got the attack into their own hands; and they never afford the enemy a chance of retrieving their position.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 991.—By E. S., of Hardlip.

White: K at Q B 3rd, R at Q B 6th, B at K 8th, Kt at Q Kt 2nd, P at Q 2nd and Q Kt 4th.
 Black: K at his 5th, B at Q Kt 4th, P at K B 3rd, K 4th, and Q R 3rd.

No. 992.

An ingenious emendation of Problem No. 638.—By Mr. H. MESSE, of Lisbon.
 White: K at Q Kt 4th, R at K sq, B at Q 7th, Kt at Q B 4th, P at K 3rd, and Q Kt 5th.
 Black: K at Q 4th, B at K R 4th, Ps at K Kt 4th, K 5th, and Q 3rd.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

No. 993.—By EICHSTADT.

Schachzeitung.

White: K at Q B 7th, B at K 5th, Ps at K 4th, Q B 3rd, and Q R 4th.

Black: K at Q B 4th, R at Q 8th, Ps at Q 2nd, Q B 5th, and Q R 4th.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

PAPAL GODFATHERS.—"The present," observes the *Débats*, "is not the first time that a Pope has acted as godfather to Royal children. When Charlemagne was at Rome his son Pepin was baptised by Pope Adrian I. In France no other ceremony of the kind occurred, if we mistake not, up to the 18th century in the reign of François I., when the Dauphin of France, son of François I., who was baptised on the 25th of April, 1518, had a godfather doubly illustrious, since he was Pope and bore the name of Leon X.; he had besides a second godfather, the King of Sicily, Duke of Lorraine. The latter was present at the baptism; the Pope was represented by his nephew, Laurent de Medicis, Duke d'Urbino. The godmother was the Duchess Alençon. The Dauphin of France, son of Henry IV., who was afterwards Louis XIII., had also a Pope for his godfather—Paul V., of the Borghese family. The baptism took place at Fontainebleau on the 14th of September, 1606."

MAIL PACKETS IN CASE OF WAR.—There are now six mail steam-packet communications every month between England and the United States. In article 20 of the United States and English Postal Convention, it states that "in case of war between the two nations the mail packets of the two countries shall continue their navigation without impediment or molestation until six weeks after a notification shall have been made on the part of either of the two Governments and delivered to the other that the service is to be discontinued, in which case they shall be permitted to return freely and under special protection to their respective ports."

A SPANISH CRISIS.—The Madrid journals of the 10th inst. state that the whole city had been plunged into profound alarm in consequence of a report having been suddenly spread that a popular rising had commenced, and of the Government having taken military precautions with extraordinary promptitude. So great was the alarm that an officer of the staff went to the palace to recommend the Queen not to make her customary promenade, and another was sent to the Retiro, where the Princess of the Asturias was being promenaded, to have her removed to a place of safety. But it turned out that the reported rising was nothing more than a tremendous hubbub at the bull-fighting circus at the Puerta del Alcalá, and that it was caused by the president of the bull-fight having ordered a bull which behaved badly to be slaughtered, whereas the spectators wished to have him ignominiously expelled. The conflict ended in the triumph of the president.

A COLLISION IN THE PRINCIPALITIES.—On the 2nd there was a collision between some Austrian Uhans and the Wallachian militia. The Uhans who were to leave Eokschani for Bucharest had demanded several carriages for the transport of their baggage. An officer of Wallachian militia, who was on his way with his men to Ibralla, claimed the same vehicles. It is said that twelve militiamen were wounded, and that the Austrian officer received a bayonet stab. As soon as the circumstances were known at Bucharest, the Austrian Commander-in-Chief despatched General Meziani with a staff officer, and the Wallachian Government a major and a surgeon, to inquire into the affair.—*Post Ampt Gazette*.

EXECUTION OF PALMER.

In a small portion of our last week's publication we gave a short notice of the execution at Stafford on Saturday morning. We now present a more detailed narrative of the last hours of the Rugeley poisoner.

Palmer denied the justice of his sentence to the last, but in a manner which left the impression on all who heard him that he had something on his mind which he would not disclose. About half-past ten o'clock on Friday night Major Fulford, the governor of the gaol, being aware that Mr. Smith, the attorney, was shortly expected to arrive, went to the prisoner's cell, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Goodacre. He told Palmer that, if he wished to make any family or confidential communications to Mr. Smith, he might rely that they would not be divulged, and that they should be kept a profound secret. Palmer immediately replied, "What I have to say to Mr. Smith I do not wish to be kept secret, but I hope, on the contrary, that you will take care to let it be made as public as possible. I have only to say that I am very grateful to Mr. Smith for his exertions on my behalf, and I also thank the officers of this gaol for their kindness to me." He then finished this sentence by using this remarkable expression, "I also wish to say that Cook did not die from strychnia." Major Fulford, upon his saying this, addressed Palmer, and said, "Mr. Palmer, I hope, at this awful moment, you are not quibbling as to the cause of Cook's death. The question is, not whether Cook was murdered by strychnia, but whether he was killed by you or not." Palmer rejoined, "Why, Lord Campbell summed up the case as one of murder by strychnia." Major Fulford again said, "That is not the question; the point is whether Cook was murdered by you or not." Palmer then said, "I have nothing more to say than this, I am quite easy in my conscience, and happy in my mind." Mr. Smith arrived at the prison soon after this occurred, and he was immediately admitted to the prisoner's cell. The prisoner's brothers and sister were present during the interview. It was anticipated that the prisoner was about to make some important communication to his attorney; but it turned out that his chief object was to thank him personally for the great pains he had taken in preparing his defence, and also to contradict a rumour which it seemed he imagined had got abroad, that he had made a confession in London either to Sergeant Shes or to some of the authorities of the gaol of Newgate. He wished Mr. Smith to do all in his power to get the statement contradicted if it had been made, and he also pressed upon him, for the sake, as he said, of his family and his "poor boy," that the body of Cook should be again exhumed and submitted to examination, with a view to show that it did not contain any strychnia. Mr. Smith promised to do all in his power to comply with Palmer's request. Before he left, Palmer gave him a religious tract, entitled "The Sinner's Friend"; and, just before he handed it to him, he wrote on the first page, in a firm, bold hand, "William Palmer, June 13, 1856."

The Inns of Stafford carried on a busy trade on the day previous to the execution. All day long people flocked into the town by road, by rail, on foot, on horseback, in gig, carriage, or on donkey. Such crowding at the railway station, such jostling in tavern yards, and tavern parlours and coffee rooms, such crowding and pushing in public-house kitchens and taprooms. Everybody wanted to get shelter, and everybody found great difficulty in securing anything of the sort. Beds had been at a premium for days past, and he who came to Stafford on Friday hoping to secure one without having made previous arrangements for that purpose found himself miserably deceived. There was no bed to be got—not for love, not for money, not for any consideration; and lucky were those who (content to sit up all night on a chair, or lie upon a table, or lister down in a hay-loft, or share a stable with the horses) were able to get a good supper to feed that physical strength which was necessary to withstand the mighty crush which all knew next morning must inevitably bring.

Stafford has seldom seen a more motley throng than that of last Saturday morning. The town mechanic, the respectably-dressed tradesman, the rustic labourer, the dark-featured miner, or puddler from the iron districts, stood together in a strangely-blended, restlessly-heaving, and loud-murmuring mass; with women dotted about at intervals—panting and fainting from the pressure, but unable to disengage themselves from the dense mass of human life in which they had become embedded. The scene was at once exciting and saddening; for the solemn thought that Justice was about to exert her right and her might contrasted strangely with the aspect of that vast assemblage of people, in the minds of most of whom, to judge by appearance, curiosity had sway, to the entire exclusion of all nobler thoughts.

Perhaps no criminal of celebrity was ever executed in so inconvenient a place, so far as the facility for obtaining a view is concerned. The standing room outside the gaol was not more than ten feet wide, and although the street either way extends a very considerable distance, there was only available space for comparatively few persons—perhaps 5000 or 6000, the view of the scaffold either way being intercepted by the towers of the gaol. With the first peep of dawn the people began to take up a position from which a good view of the scaffold could be obtained. By four o'clock hundreds had taken their stand upon the limited area from which such a view could be obtained; by five o'clock the hundreds had swelled to thousands; by six o'clock every foot of vantage-ground was occupied, while the population of the surrounding villages still came pouring into the town, too late to see, but not too late to hear, how he died, and know whether he had made a confession.

The convict retired to rest early on the morning, and slept two hours and a half, when he was visited again by Mr. Goodacre, the chaplain; between five and six he had some tea, but without eating anything with it. The chaplain saw him repeatedly until the hour of his execution, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Sneyd, a clergyman in the neighbourhood, who had visited him once or twice during the week. Shortly after seven he had another cup of tea; and to the turnkey who gave it him, and who asked him how he was, he replied he was quite comfortable. About half-past seven o'clock Colonel Dyott, the High Sheriff of the county, accompanied by Mr. Hand, the Under Sheriff, and some of his officers, arrived at the gaol, and they proceeded to the prisoner's cell, accompanied by Major Fulford, the governor, and the Rev. Mr. Goodacre. The prisoner shook hands with them, and returned thanks to the governor for the kindness he had received at his hands. Shortly afterwards Colonel Dyott asked the prisoner whether he did not think that the time had arrived when he ought to admit the justice of his sentence? Palmer immediately, and with great earnestness, exclaimed, "No;" then, striking one of his arms down, and with great energy, he added, "They are my murderers." He did not mention whom he meant by "they," but he again repeated the expression, "I am murdered; they are my murderers."

At this moment the prison bell gave forth its mournful sound. Palmer heard it quite unmoved, and it being now close upon eight o'clock a signal was given for the procession to be formed. It was headed by the chaplain, who commenced reading the Burial Service. He was followed by some officers of the Sheriff; then came the prisoner, close to whom was the hangman and his assistant. The High Sheriff and his deputy and a few of the county magistrates who are visiting justices of the gaol, and Major Fulford, the governor, closed the procession. The cell in which the prisoner had been confined was in a sort of gallery, and he had to descend an iron staircase. He descended at a quick pace; and, notwithstanding his arms and hands being pinioned, he never faltered, but exhibited a most extraordinary appearance of unconcern, and, indeed, indifference. He made a bow to the governor of the prison, Major Fulford, who was standing at the bottom of the staircase, and shook hands with one of the officials of the prison, and then with great composure resumed his place in the procession. The distance from this spot to the place of execution is considerable, and Palmer traversed the whole of it with a firm light step, tripping, as it were, along the ground. He did not evince the least appearance of alarm when he came suddenly upon the ladder leading up to the scaffold, but at once mounted it rapidly, and, having looked up and observed the spot where the rope was hanging, he, of his own accord, placed himself under it, and the executioner at once placed the noose round his neck. This was the only moment when he appeared to betray any emotion, but the moment the rope touched his flesh he turned deadly pale. Contrary to general expectation, the crowd did not evince any manifestation against the prisoner upon his making his appearance on the scaffold. There was a slight yell from one portion of the crowd, but the majority of those present gave no expression of feeling, and, indeed, almost perfect stillness prevailed. The hangman, having drawn the cap over the face of the prisoner, retired from the scaffold and withdrew the bolt that secured the drop, which at once fell, and Palmer appeared to die almost instantaneously. There was not a single convulsive effect observable: his pinioned hands gradually dropped, and he ceased to exist, apparently without a pang.

After hanging an hour the body was cut down and carried to the interior of the gaol, where a cast of the head was accurately taken by a gentleman named Bridges, who is connected with the Liverpool Phrenological Society, who had a special authority from the visiting justices for that purpose. The countenance of the prisoner did not exhibit any indication of his having suffered a violent death, and a sort of contemptuous smile appeared upon the face. In the course of the day the body was buried within the precincts of the gaol.

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